ROOKIES
ルーキーズ
19
森田まさのり・
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ROOKIES

鋭いフォークを持つ超高校級投手、笹崎高校の川上には意外な過去があった。ニコガクナインのがむしゃら野球によって、徐々にリズムを崩されていく川上の脳裏に甦るその苦い記憶とは!?　そして試合は思わぬ展開に…。

★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・
団体・事件などには、いっさい関係ありません。

JUMP COMICS

19

Fool to cry

ROOKIES

ルーキーズ

森田まさのり

STUDIO Ti-man SINCE・1989

The Story so Far

Thanks to the hot-blooded teacher Kawato, the previously banned baseball team is getting back on track. He managed to prove himself to the new first year students, and now he is creating a new Nikogaku! Even though they were beaten completely in their first practice game together, they learned about the true meaning of the 'Koshien' and the dreams and weight it carries.

During the summer qualifying round for the Koshien, their first and second games were both complete shutouts. But now they're up against Sasazaki High School, with the renowned slugger Bessho and star pitcher Kawakami. Nikogaku hasn't been able to create any openings.

In the first inning Bessho hit a home-run, but Aniya managed to take the other batters out. Then Nikogaku managed to take one point back by clever use of the bunt!

It's now the bottom of the second, and Nikogaku are just hoping to get another chance for runs against Sasazaki!!

Character Introduction

ROOKIES ルーキーズ

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Fool to cry

STUDIO Kitaman SINCE・1987

Vol.176 The Squeeze

YEEEAAH!

HELL YEAH, SEKI-KAWA!

DAMN STRAIGHT MOTHER FUCKER!

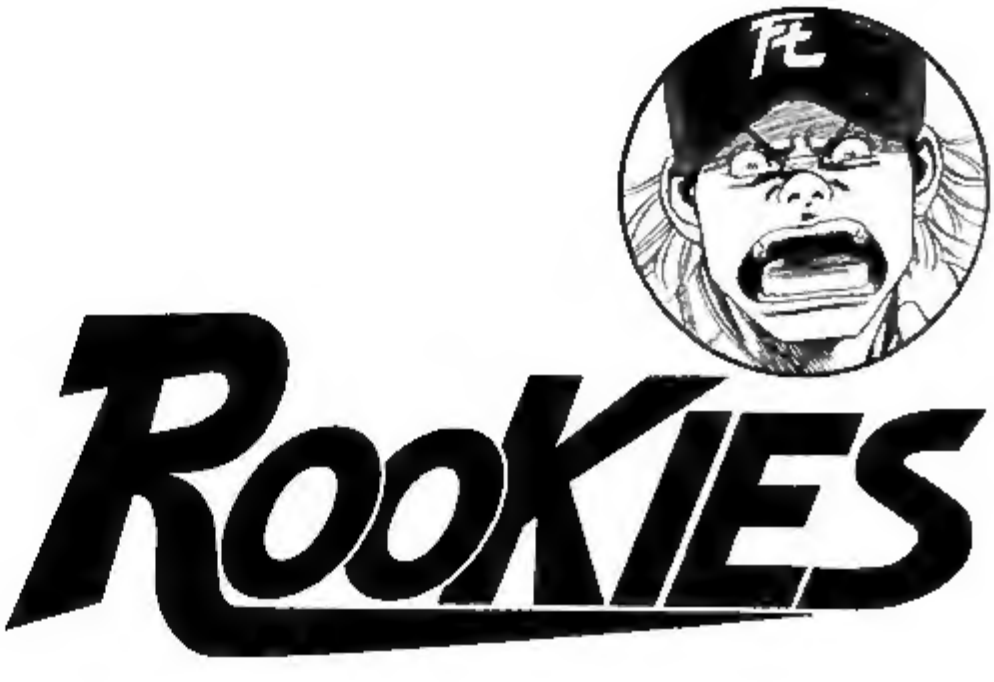
SAAAAA AAAFE!!!

NO WAY!!

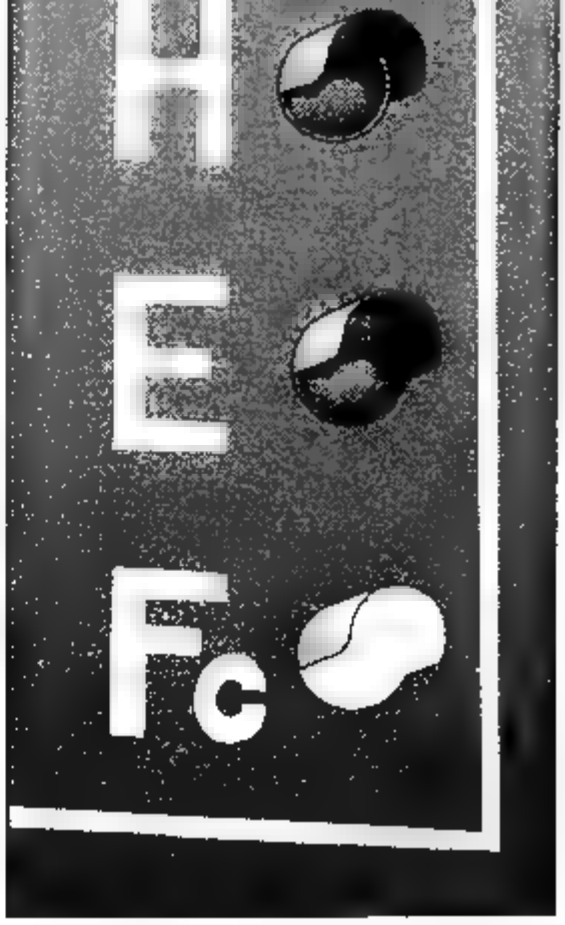
ONE OUT WITH FIRST AND THIRD LOADED!

Vol.176
The Squeeze

Vol.176
The Squeeze


ROOKIES

IT WAS A FIELDER'S CHOICE!
BUT WHAT'S UP WITH THAT GUY'S LEGS!?
FIRST'S GUNNING FOR SEKIKAWA BACKFIRED ON THEM!



GOOOW!!
HE... HE DID IT...

YOU AIN'T SO BAD AFTER ALL, HUH?
GYAHA HAHA! DID YOU SEE THAT SHIT?

ハッ
オオ!!

ALL RIGHT, AKABO-SHI!

HELL YEAH —!
YEAH YEAH YEAH —!

WITH THAT GUY ON THIRD, IF THEY PULL OFF A SQUEEZE BUNT, IT LOOKS LIKE WE MIGHT BE IN TROUBLE.

HMM. ONE OUT, RUNNERS ON FIRST AND THIRD ...

S-SORRY, KAWAKAMI...

DON'T WORRY, IT'S COOL.

CHATTER

UGH, IT'S THAT GUY!

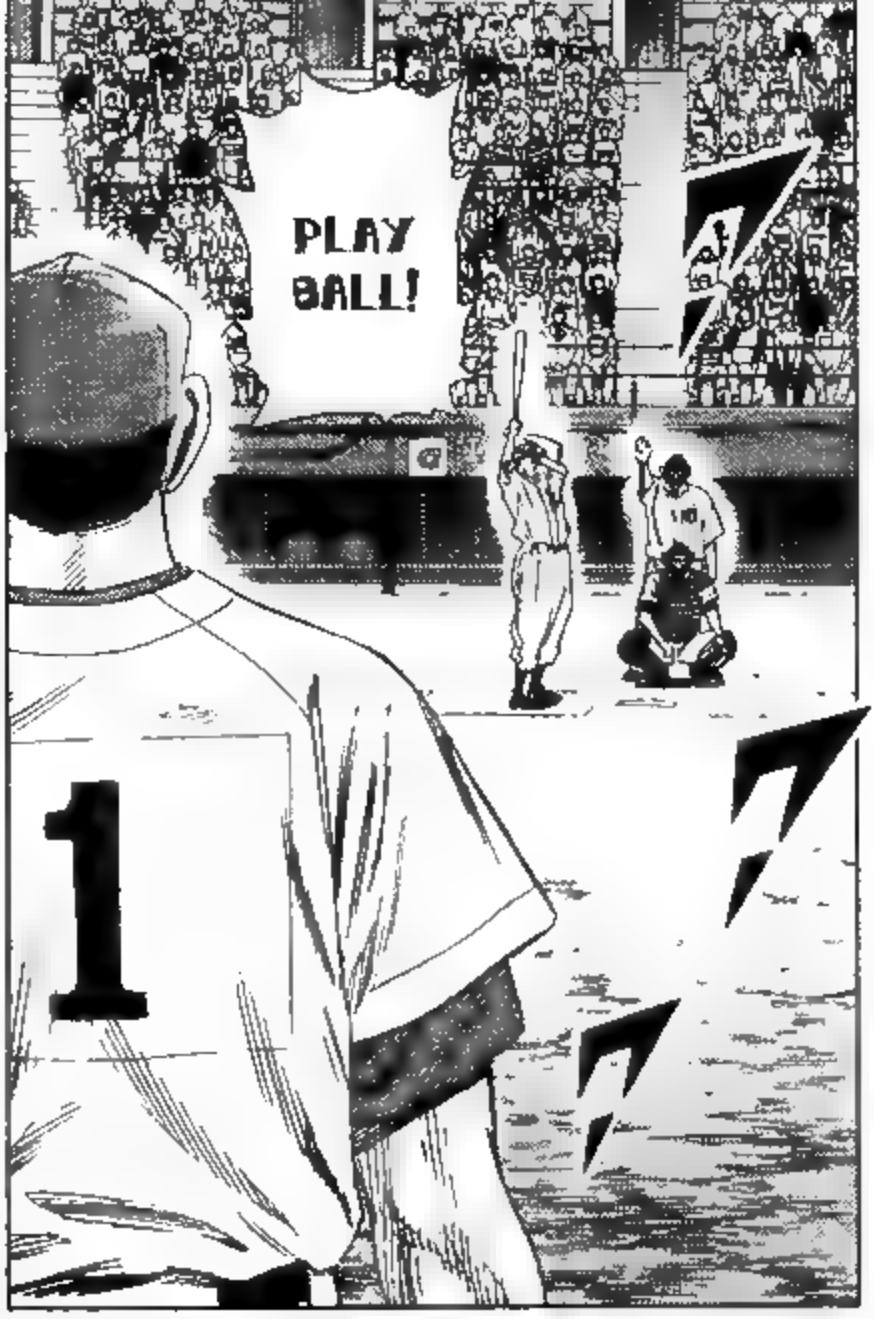
IT'S A SQUEEZE PLAY, RIGHT?

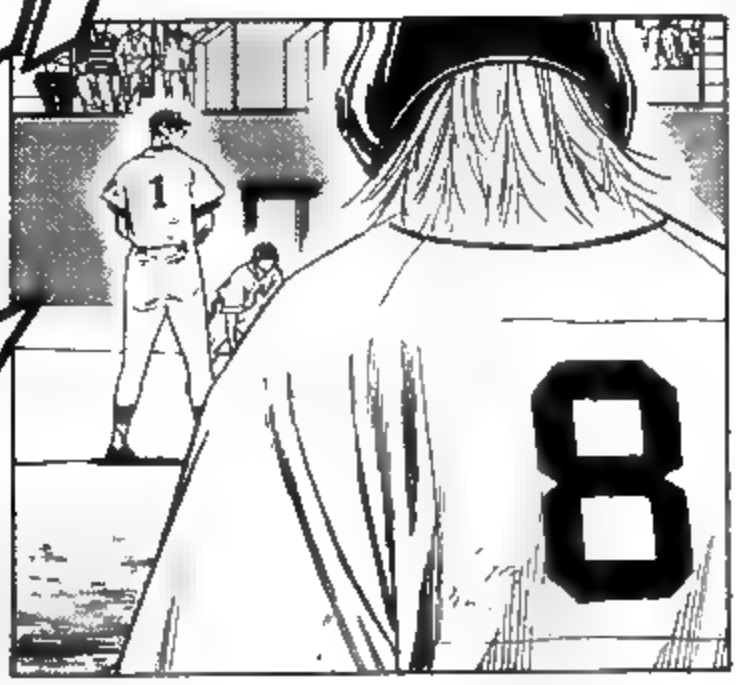
CHATTER

BATTING THIRD, CATCHER AKABOSHI.

CATCHER- AKABOSHI!

WHICH IS HE GONNA GO FOR... THE BIG HIT... OR THE SQUEEZE?
.....


PLAY BALL!
1


1
8

BALL!

HMPH, ABSO-LUTELY NO RESPONSE.

HE DID HIT A SLIDER SQUARELY JUST BEFORE ...

.....
.....

THE OUTFIELD IS COMING FORWARD...

I GUESS THEY'RE TRYING TO CUT OFF A TAG UP...

AH! THE RUNNER!

HE'S GOING FOR A SQUEEZE BUNT!

AH, HE PITCHES OUT!

HE READ IT, HE READ IT!

OUT-SMARTED!

UH... NO...

ア

ア

ア

OKAY!!

ア

!

HOW IN THE HELL DID HE HIT THAT.

!

AAAH, SO CLOSE!

FOUL, FOUL!

HE'S FAST... WAY TOO FAST!

WHA— NO WAY

YOU'RE FUCKING USELESS MAN...

.....
.....

BULLSHIT, I'M THE ONLY ONE ON THIS TEAM WHO COULD PULL THAT OFF!

WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT IS THAT AKABOSHI MANAGED TO HIT THAT BALL AND THEN

THAT AIN'T SOMETHING TO BE SURPRISED ABOUT

SO THEN, THE OUTFIELD COMING FORWARD WAS JUST TO MAKE IT LOOK LIKE THEY WERE STOPPING A SAC FLY WHEN THEY ACTUALLY WANTED THEM TO SQUEEZE!

SASAZAKI READ THE SQUEEZE PERFECTLY.

WOW, CHIBA-SAN IS AMAZING...

GULP

THOSE AMAZING LEGS THAT KID'S GOT.

FOUL!

AH, HE GOT IT AGAIN!

TIME OUT! I WANNA CHANGE BATS, THIS ONE IS TOO THIN!

.....
.....

C'MON, PLAY PROPERLY DUDE, YOU FUCKING SUCK!

IF IT'S ANOTHER FOUL BALL THAT'S OKAY... BUT WHAT IF HE TAKES A SWING AND A MISS? OR WORSE STILL WHAT IF HE JUST LETS THE PITCHES FLY BY...

BUT THERE'S STILL THE SUICIDE SQUEEZE BUNT... THOSE TWO COULD PULL IT OFF...

THIS IS A 1-2... CORNERED...

WE COULD THROW ANOTHER BALL LIKE BEFORE... BUT...

UGH...

IT WAS CLEAR FROM THAT SECOND BALL HOW QUICK HE IS...

IF WE WASTE ANOTHER BALL, IT'S ALL TOO LIKELY THAT SEKIAWA WILL GET TO HOME PLATE BEFORE THE BALL.

BUT STILL...

IT'S JUST... IMPOSSIBLE...

TO THINK THAT THERE COULD BE SOMEONE SO FAST...

1

ANYWAY, WE CAN'T WASTE ANOTHER PITCH.

PLAY BALL!

SO THEN WE GOTTA...

ACK, I CAN'T DECIDE...

笹崎

AOTA-SAN...

GULP

2
8

1

S
笹崎

HE'S GOING!

IT'S A SUICIDE SQUEEZE BUNT!

WHAT!? THEY'RE NOT WASTING ANOTHER PITCH!?

A FAST-BALL!?

AH!?

NO WAY, THROWING A FORK WITH A RUNNER ON THIRD!?

FORK... IT'S A FORK BALL!

!

NO MATTER WHAT!

I'LL CATCH IT!

!!

OKAY!

!?

TOO FAST!

FA-FAST!

UGH!

SAAA AAAAA AFE!

SERIOUSLY!?

ROOKIES IS BACK BABY!
COME HELP US FINISH A GREAT MANGA BY APPLYING ON EITHER THE DEADBEAT OR ILLUMINATI FORUMS. ALSO, BE SURE TO CHECK OUT MANY OTHER GREAT SERIES DONE BY EITHER GROUP.

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WE TIED IT UP!!

YESSSS!

Vol.177 Flash Back!!

!

AOTA!!

GO SEKIKAWA-GO-!!

.....

HELL YEAH!

.....
.....

SAFE!

....
....

ALLL-
RIGHT!!!

NO
WAY!

NO WAY,
I CAN'T
BELIEVE
IT!

HOW THE
HELL DID
THEY DO
THAT?

HEY,
THEY'VE
TIED IT
UP!

11

.....
.....

HAHAHAHA!
DID YOU SEE
THAT SHIT,
BOYS?

YOU'RE
MY HERO,
MAN!
HAHAHA!

YOU'RE
THE FASTEST
FUCKER ON
THE PLANET!

NICE
SEKIKAWA!

I DIDN'T SEE THAT COMING...

TO THINK SASAZAKI IS HAVING TROUBLE WITH THIS NO NAME TEAM...

T N 1 2 3 4

... THEY CAUGHT UP...

EVEN THOUGH KAWAKAMI IS THE BETTER PITCHER, THEY'RE STILL STOPPING HIM...

NOT JUST THAT, NIKOGAKU HAS FOUR HITS, SASAZAKI ONLY HAS THREE.

BUT THE ONLY REAL HIT THEY HAD WAS AKABOSHI'S TO THIRD BASE.

I GUESS... BUT EVEN SO...

....

LOOKS LIKE ALL THE OTHER PLAYERS ARE FEELING IT TOO...

....

EVEN KAWAKAMI LOOKS UNSETTLED!

HMPH! IT'S RARE TO SEE ANYONE CATCH UP WITH THESE GUYS!

1

11" 11"

IS SLOWLY DERAILING THE CHAMPS, EH!

LOOKS LIKE NIKOGAKU'S UNRULY AND RECKLESS BASEBALL

AIN'T NO WAY I'D CONSIDER A BUNT A REAL HIT!

YOU'RE HOLDING THEM DOWN JUST FINE.

YOU'RE THROWING GOOD BALLS, MAN!

BESSHO-SAN!

IF YOU TAKE OUR MISTAKES INTO ACCOUNT, THEY'RE JUST LUCKY, THAT'S ALL.

THAT'S HOW WE'VE ALWAYS WON UP 'TIL NOW, RIGHT?

I'LL BE HITTING TONS OF HOME RUNS, AND YOU'LL BE STRIKING 'EM OUT!

LISTEN HERE, I'LL TAKE CARE OF SCORIN'.

AFTER ALL, THE NUMBER ONE PITCHER IN THIS TOURNAMENT IS YOU, MAN!

JUST BELIEVE IN YASELF AND THROW IT...

...YEAH! IT'S LIKE THE WAY THEY HUSTLE HARD, EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE THE UNDERDOGS...

HEY... WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT, NIKOGAKU ARE PRETTY AWESOME...

N-NO! WE DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT ..

ARE YOU BASTARDS NIKOGAKU SUPPORTERS?

HUH? WHO THE FUCK SAID THAT!?

YEAH! C'MON, ANIYA! LET'S TAKE THE LEAD!

BATTING FOURTH, PITCHER, ANIYA-KUN.

YEAH.

PITCHER, ANIYA-KUN.

KAWA-KAMI-KUN!

OH, SHUT IT...

LET'S GO KAWAKAMI!!

!?

PLAY BALL!

KAWA-KAMI!

C'MON KAWA-KAMI!

NIKOGAKU CAN'T DO NOTHING BUT BUNT!

HUH, WHAT THE FUCK IS THIS?

SERIOUSLY!

I CAN'T GET RID OF IT.

AH?

HUH? WHAT THE...!?

1A

I-IT'S YOU GUYS...

HEHE.

AH!

HEY, DON'T BE DOIN' SHIT LIKE THAT.

UWAH!

!

IT'S TIED UP.

HEY, CHECK OUT THE SCORE...

1

KAWAKAMI...

STRR RRIKE!

THAT'S IT! NICE PITCH!

MAN UP AND HIT IT!

C'MON, ANIYA!

12

DAMN IT!

HE CLIP-PED IT!

OOOH!

FOUL!

.....
.....

.....
.....

ANIYA'S BEEN ABLE TO ADJUST TO THE TIMING!

BECAUSE THEY KEPT PITCHING FORK BALLS...

....
.....

ANIYA'S USED TO IT ALREADY!

WAIT UP MAN, DON'T GO WITH THE FORK!

I'M TELLING YOU, THROW A STRAIGHT!

笹崎

A... ARE YOU SERIOUS!?

関西ペイント
SSK

12

UGH!

……

……

TOO EASY!

¡HHOOOO

AHHH!! N-NO WAY!!

RIGHT CENTER FIELD!

YEEEE EEES!

C'MON GO GO GO GO GO GO!!!

AWE-SOME, YO! RUN! RUN! RUN!

FUCK YEAH!

YEAH! WE TOOK THE LEAD!!!

SAAAFE!

ナナナ

AWESOME HIT, YO!

HAHAHAHA, THIS IS THE BEST!!

A TRIPLE! A TRIPLE!!

EAT IT!

...SHIT, A TURN-OVER...

ナナ

A TURN-OVER!

NIKOGAKU TURNED IT AROUND!

!

1A

.....
.....

...S-
SENPAI!!

ROOKIES
ルーキーズ

ROOKIES IS BACK BABY!
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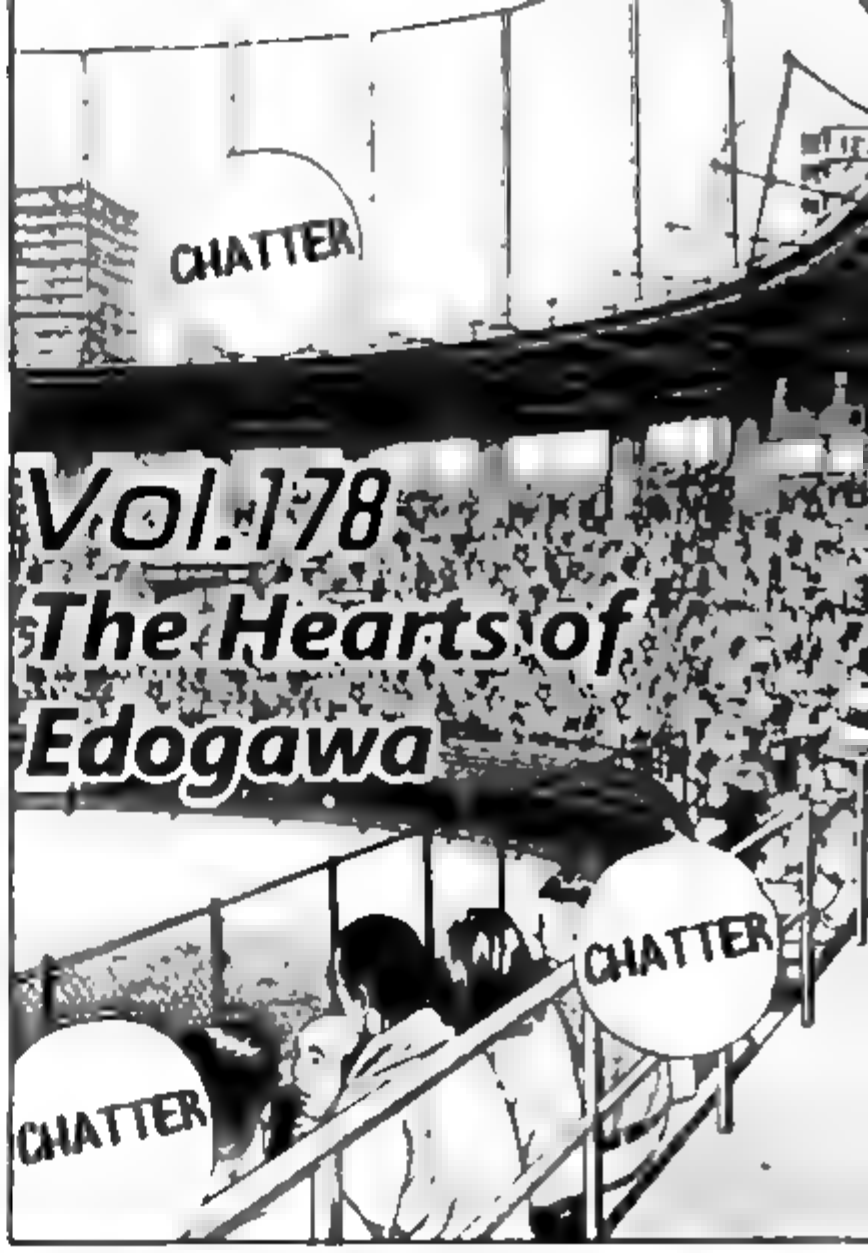
...I CAN'T... BELIEVE IT...

IN THE END...


CHATTER
Vol.178
The Hearts of Edogawa
CHATTER
CHATTER

TN 1 2 3 4

THAT FORK BALL AIN'T EVEN FORKING AT ALL...

WHAT THE HELL IS KAWAKAMI TRYING TO DO?

OHO-HO! LOOKS LIKE THEY GOT A RUN ON US...

THIRD BASE, SHINJO-KUN.

1A

THIRD BASE, NUMBER 5, SHINJO-KUN.

LET'S NOT FIGHT...

CALM... WE MUST BE CALM...

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO CALM THE FUCK DOWN!

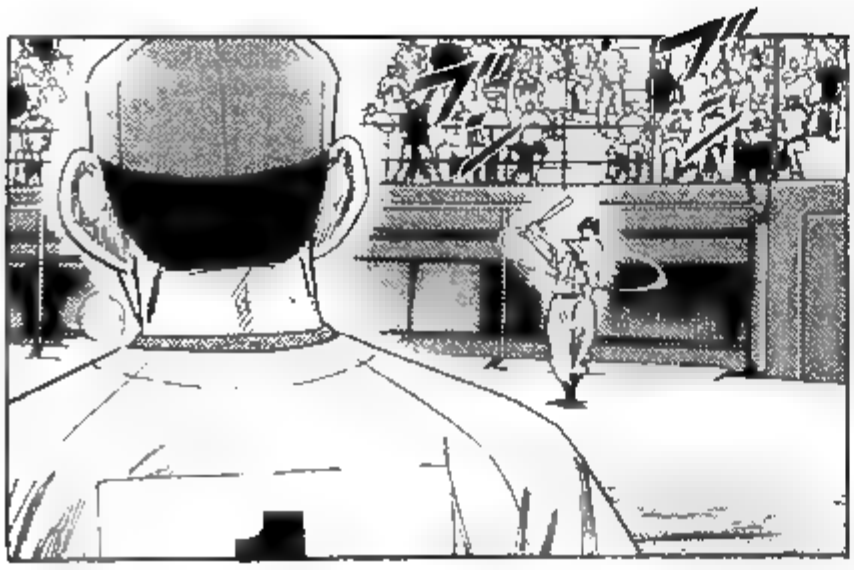
.....
.....

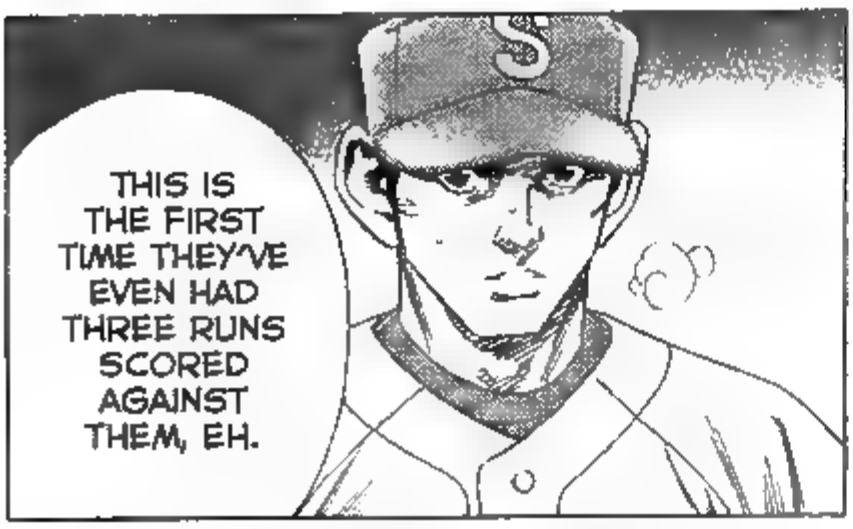
HOLD YOUR HORSES! DON'T GET FULL OF YOUR-SELVES!!!

AWW-RIGHT!

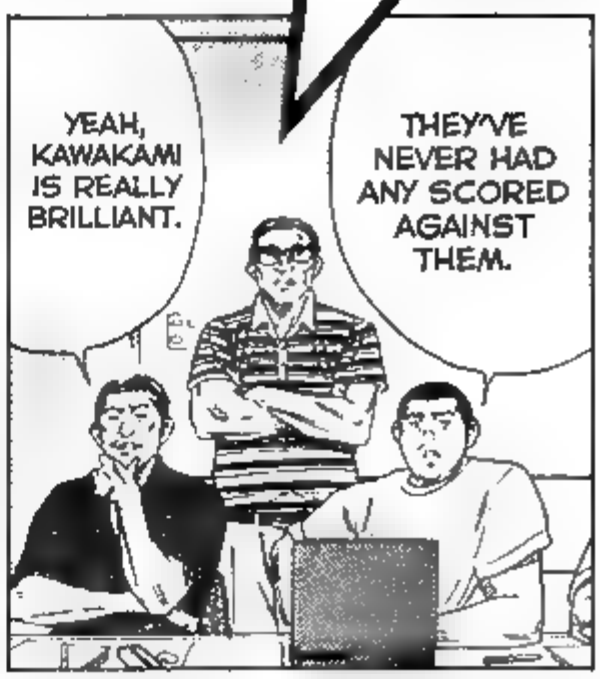
EASY VICTORY!

IT'S OBVIOUS WE'RE GONNA WIN THIS!




THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THEY'VE EVEN HAD THREE RUNS SCORED AGAINST THEM, EH.

IF IT WASN'T FOR BESSHO'S INJURY, THEY WOULD HAVE WON THE KANTO TOURNAMENT.
WELL, YOU SAY INJURY, BUT IT WAS FOOD POISONING!


YEAH, KAWAKAMI IS REALLY BRILLIANT.
THEY'VE NEVER HAD ANY SCORED AGAINST THEM.

EVEN WINNING THE NATIONALS IS NOT OUT OF REACH.
WELL, THIS YEAR IS GOING TO BE BESSHO'S LAST YEAR, SO WITH HIM AND KAWAKAMI, IT'S DEFINITELY THEIR STRONGEST LINEUP...

THE THING CHIBA-SAN WANTS THE MOS—

NO, THE THING EDOGAWA WANTS THE MOST IS THE REVIVAL OF THEIR CHAMPIONSHIP BASEBALL TEAM.

HUH? THAT'S BECAUSE CHIBA-SAN SCOUTED THEM, RIGHT?

BUT HEY, DON'T THOSE TWO KEEP ENDING UP ON THE SAME TEAM?

THAT'S PRETTY AMAZING!

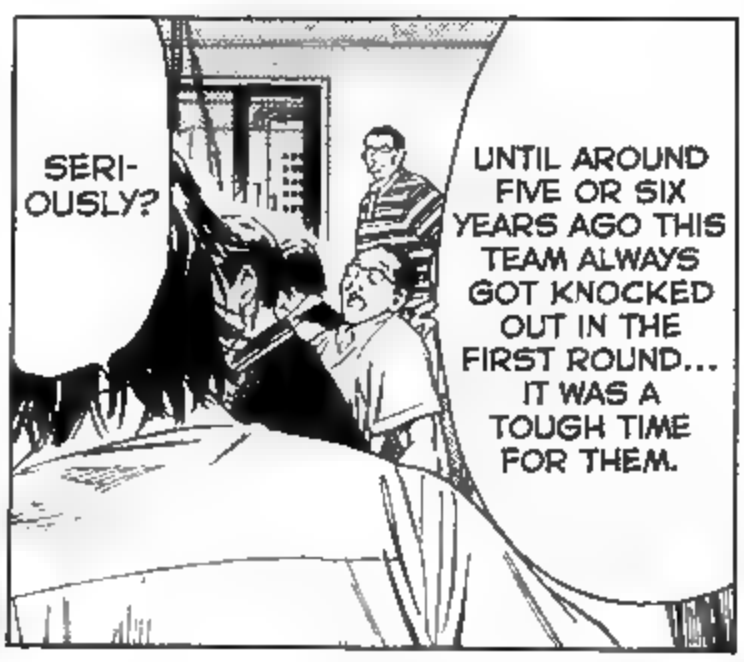
PLAY BALL!

HE'S DONE WELL CONSIDERING THEY WERE SUCH A BAD TEAM.

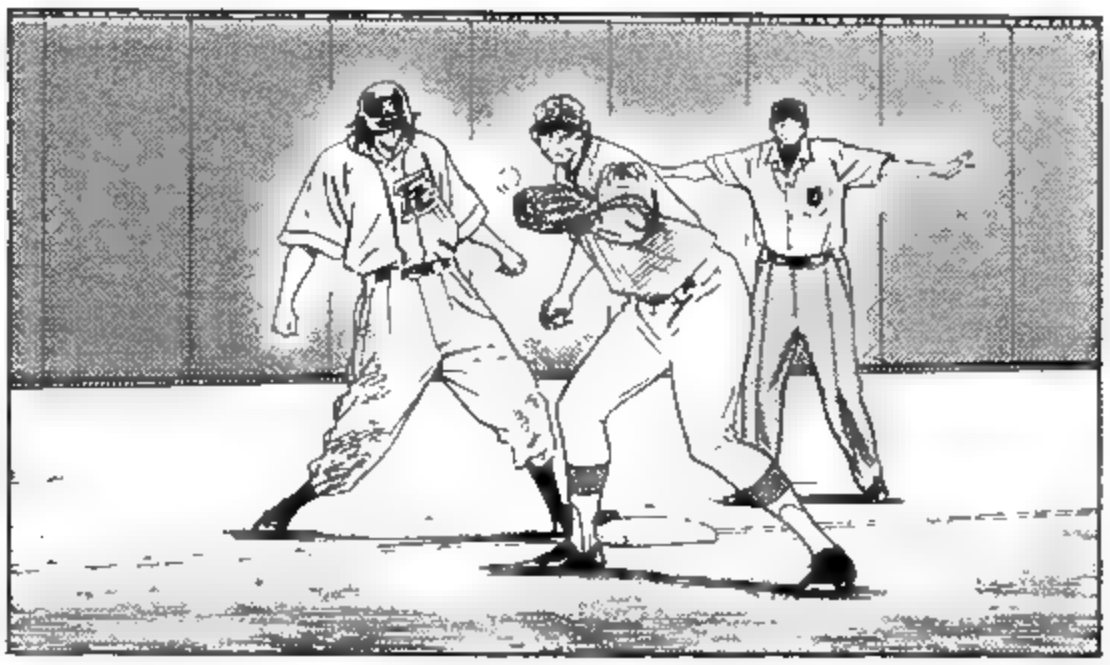
.....
.....
HEY, YOSHIDA, YOU DID WELL TO FIND AN IDIOT LIKE THIS ONE...

.....
.....
B-BAD TEAM?
BUT... THEY ARE THE CHAMPS... I THOU—

BACK IN THE DAY WHEN CHIBA-SAN WAS STILL PLAYING!
YOU SON, ARE GETTING CONFUSED WITH THE 70'S!


SERI-OUSLY?
UNTIL AROUND FIVE OR SIX YEARS AGO THIS TEAM ALWAYS GOT KNOCKED OUT IN THE FIRST ROUND... IT WAS A TOUGH TIME FOR THEM.

BACK THEN, THEY WERE A REALLY STRONG TEAM!



AFTER THE END OF THE POST-WAR'S ECONOMIC GROWTH, ALL OF JAPAN WAS IN IT'S WORST-EVER RECESSION WITH BANKRUPTCY EVERYWHERE AND THE GOVERNMENT BONDS GOING INTO DEFICITS... BUT IN EDOGAWA, THERE WASN'T THIS *DEPRESSING* MOOD GOING AROUND...

THANKS TO SASAZAKI, THAT QUALIFIED TO THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT FOUR YEARS IN A ROW, THIS NEIGHBORHOOD STAYED IN A CHEERFUL MOOD.

MATTER OF FACT, TEPCO'S* ELECTRICITY SUPPLY WAS DRAINED AND THEY ASKED EVERYONE IN TOKYO TO STOP USING THEIR AIR CONDITIONERS...

THE HIGH POINT WAS THE SUMMER WHEN SASAZAKI REMAINED IN THE KOSHIEN FINAL THANKS TO CHIBA, WHO PITCHED A GAME WITHOUT A SINGLE HIT!

*TOKYO ELECTRICITY POWER COMPANY

THEY WERE ALL EXTREMELY PROUD OF SASAZAKI!

ESPECIALLY THE ONES FROM EDO-GAWA...

?

THAT'S JUST TO SHOW HOW EXCITED THE PEOPLE OF TOKYO WERE!

KAWA-
KAMI——

KAWA-
KAMI——

DON'T GET WORKED UP OVER A ONE POINT LEAD!

LET'S GO, KAWA-KAMI!

DESTROY NIKO-GAKU!

ヒュー!!!

WHAT ARE YOU TRYIN' TO PULL, MAN...

WOAH, THAT WAS CLOSE... THAT WAS WAY TOO HIGH FOR A HARD STRAIGHT.

ドゥ

BALL!

BUT AFTER CHIBA FINISHED HIS STUDIES AND LEFT, IT WAS A DISASTER... SASAZAKI COULDN'T STOP LOSING GAMES.

ANYWAY, HE WAS THE KIND OF TRASH THAT KNEW NOTHING ABOUT BASE-BALL AND JUST CORRUPTED THE PLAYERS...

FOR EXAMPLE, THERE WAS A SCANDAL WHERE A UNIVERSITY GAVE MONEY TO THAT COACH TO FRAUDULENTLY ACCEPT PLAYERS ON HIS TEAM...

IT WAS THE COACH'S FAULT!

.....
.....

SASAZAKI HAD BECOME SYNONIMOUS WITH DECLINE.

THE WORST WAS WHEN SASAZAKI WAS BANNED FROM THE TOURNAMENT!

IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO TAKE IN THE FACT THAT THOSE CHAMPS, WHO HAD CONSISTENTLY WON, HAD BECOME SUCH A WEAK TEAM.

THE REVIVAL OF THIS TEAM'S PRIOR GLORY IS THE ONE THING THE PEOPLE OF THIS CITY WANT THE MOST.

KAWA-KAMI!

KAWA-KAMI!

KAWA-KAMI!

AND OF COURSE, HE WANTED TO SEE HIS OLD TEAM RESTORED TO IT'S FORMER GLORY.

THE SCHOOL COULD ONLY RELY ON HIM TO DO THAT.

.....
.....

HE SWORE ON HIS LIFE THAT AS THE COACH HE WOULD BRING BACK THE PRIDE OF EDOGAWA.

THERE WAS NO DOUBT THAT HE WAS SLOWLY, BUT SURELY, BUILDING THE TEAM UP.

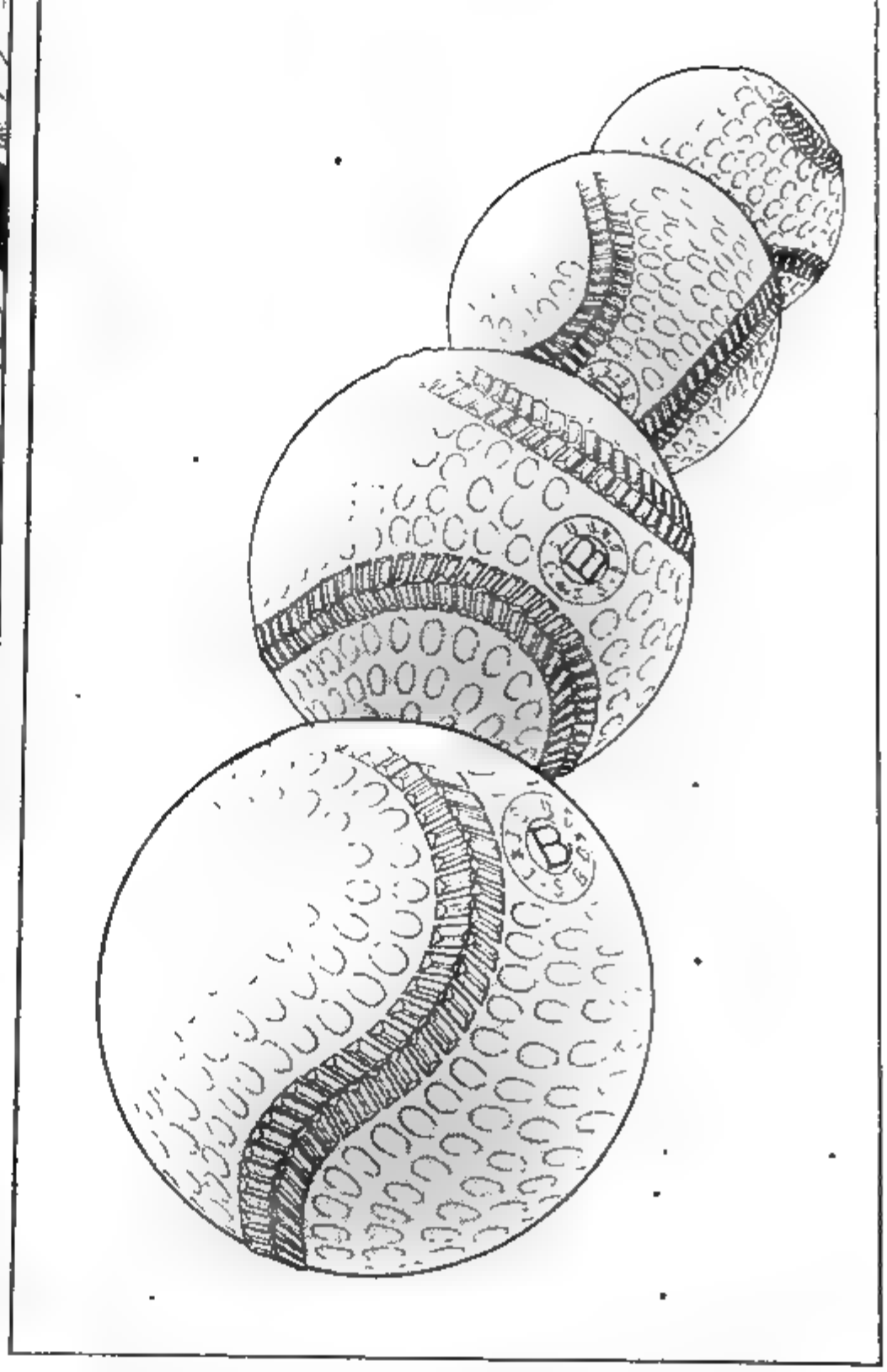
AND SO OVER THE YEARS, HE HAS CAREFULLY REBUILT HIS TEAM.

HE FREQUENTLY VISITED NEARBY MIDDLE SCHOOLS TO MAKE SPEECHES AND RECRUIT NEW PLAYERS.

AND THEN...

THEN, THE SLUGGER BESSHO JOINED.

HE MET THE PERSON THAT HE FELT COULD COMPLETE HIS TEAM.



Ritta

ONLY THING WAS, THAT THIS GUY HAD A PROBLEM.

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

SBO

EFc

CHATTER

KAWA-
KAMI...

NO, HIT IT! IF IT'S AN EASY PITCH, GO AHEAD AND HIT IT!

WAIT IT OUT, SHINJO! JUST WATCH THE FIRST PITCH!

HIT!
WAIT!
5
HIT!
WAIT!
I'M
MY NAME IS KAWAKAMI SADAHARU.
I'D LIKE TO BECOME A PITCHER.

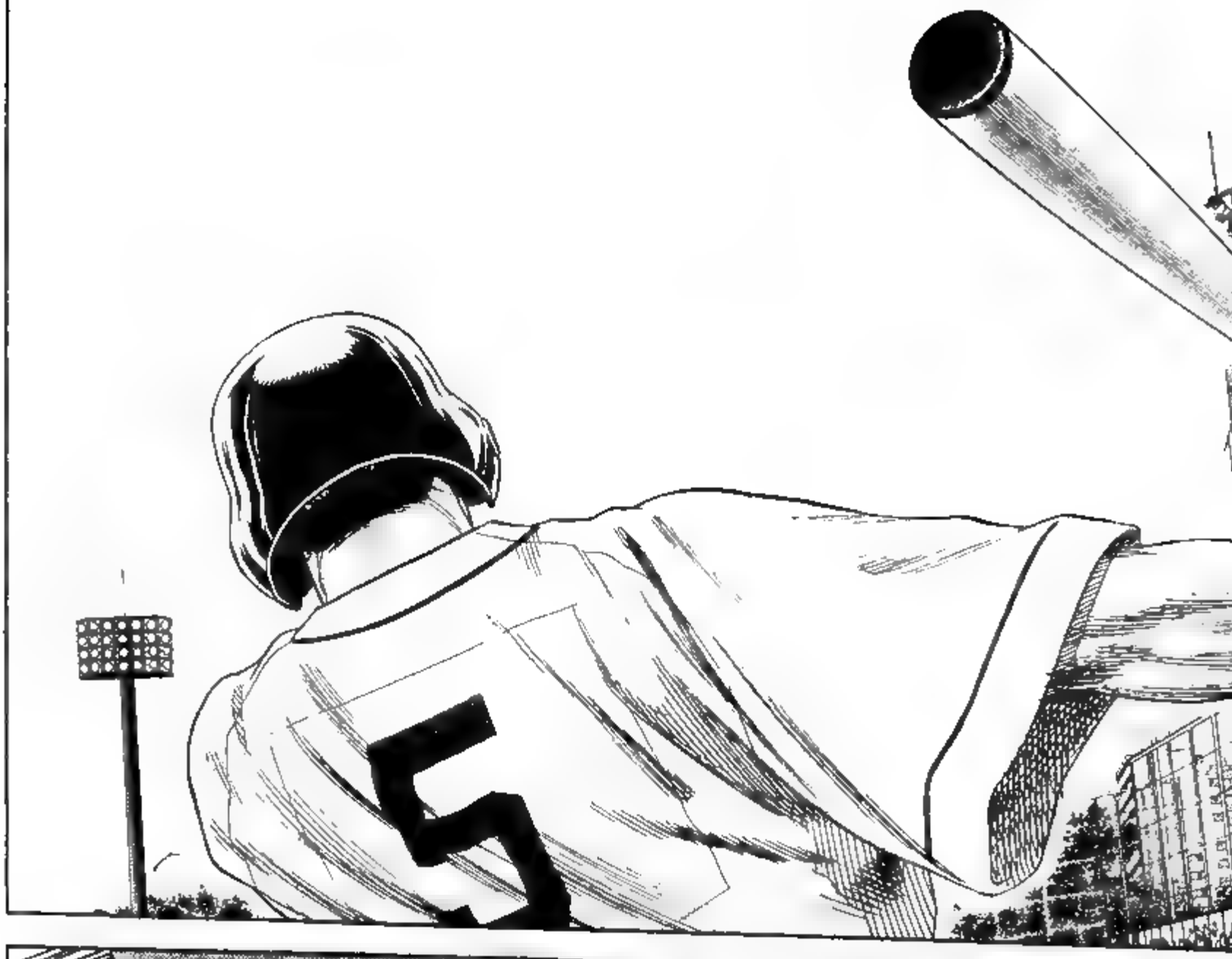
FOLLOW MY LEAD.

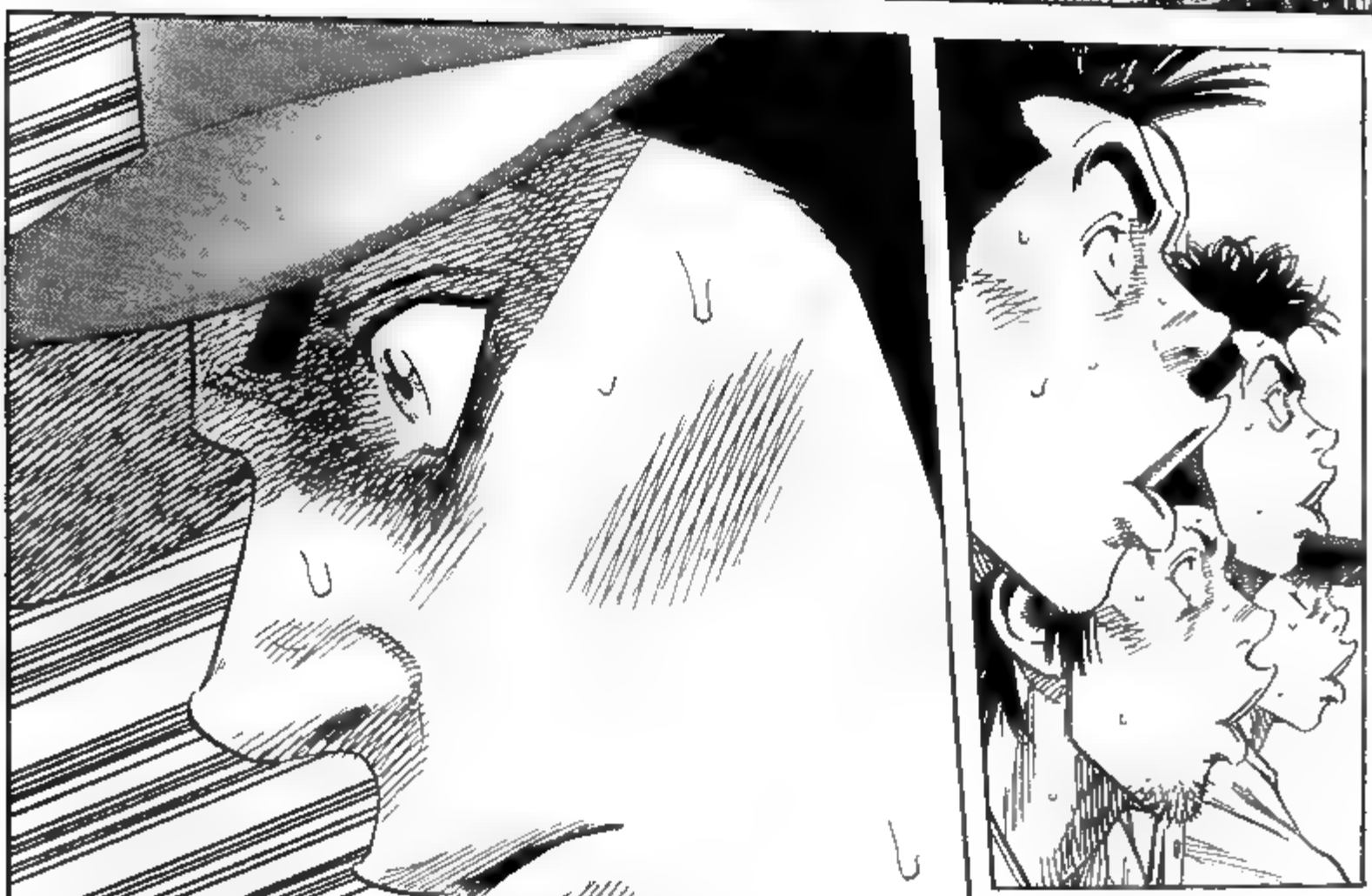
SO I'M JUST GONNA TELL YOU BOYS RIGHT NOW; I'M GONNA PRACTICE MY OWN WAY, SO——

WHAT DID YOU SAY, FAGGOT?

.....
.....

HUH...





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Vol.179 The Mound of Despair

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オ

KU~~~ SO CLOSE!

NO WAY! THAT WAS IN! YA NEED GLASSES OR SOME-THING?

FOUL BALL!

WOOH, WHAT AN ATMO-SPHERE~

THAT IDIOT.

.....
.....

WE WERE LUCKY JUST THERE.

CHATTER

HOLY SHIT, WHAT'S UP WITH KAWAKAMI?

3B

IF THAT HAD BEEN IN, IT'D BE FIVE TO TWO!

CHATTER

ドドド

HEY, WHO THE FUCK DO YOU THINK YOU ARE USING THE BULLPEN WITHOUT PERMISSION!?

AH, WELL I'M AFRAID I'VE ALREADY BEEN GIVEN APPROVAL TO PITCH, YOU SEE.

WHA-!

ARE YOU KIDDING ME? FIRST YEARS ARE ONLY SUPPOSED TO PICK UP BALLS.

HUH? PITCHING PRACTICE, SIR!

HURRY UP AND GET THE HELL OFF THERE.

!

LOOKS LIKE THE COACH SUDDENLY DECIDED TO HAVE KAWAKAMI PITCH IN THE SPRING.

Y-YOU...

DON'T TAKE IT THE WRONG WAY, KOUTOU.

HEY, JUST LEAVE IT.

GRR... THAT ASS-HOLE...

NAGA-SHIMA!

IT'S THE COACH'S IDEA.

.....
.....

OKAY, LET'S START WITH 50 BALLS.

MAKIHARA-SAN, YA WANNA SEE THE FORK RIGHT? MY FORK BALL.

SHUT UP.

.....
.....

.....
.....

... JUST BECAUSE YOU CAN THROW A FEW FORKS, DON'T GET SO FULL OF YOURSELF.

YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT, BUT...

EVERYONE'S GONNA HATE YOU, DUDE.

WHY NOT? IT'S COOL, AND SO AM I.

OI, KAWAKAMI. YOU'RE TOO MUCH OF A SMUG BASTARD.

Y-YOU, WHAT DID YO-...

THE REASON IS SO THAT WE CAN GET TO THE KOSHIEN, RIGHT?

ANYWAY, THE BIG BOSS CAN SEE MY ABILITY, THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN CHOSEN AS PITCHER.

....
....

PEOPLE WHO CAN DO NOTHING BUT KEEP SCORE DON'T GET TO COMPLAIN.

SHUT THE FUCK UP, MURATA!

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

GO GO SHINJO!

HIT IT MAN! GO FOR IT, SHINJO!

ONE MORE BIG HIT!

YEAH, THEY DID.

HEY, DID THIS LOT SERIOUSLY GET TO THE KOSHIEN!?

YEAH, THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO BUT SCORE 12 MORE AND THEN KNOCK HIM OUT!

HAHA, THAT KAWAKAMI GUY IS TURNIN' OUT TO BE A TOTAL LOSER, EH!

SURPRISINGLY, SINCE FIRST YEAR, KAWAKAMI WAS GIVEN THE ACE NUMBER.

IN THE SUMMER PRELIMINARY ROUNDS, HE STRUCK OUT NINE BATTERS IN A ROW, AND THEY DIDN'T EVEN GET A SINGLE HIT.

HIS PITCHING WAS REALLY AMAZING!

HIS PITCH SPEED WAS AVERAGE, BUT EVEN AS A FRESHMAN HIS FORK WAS AS GOOD AS IT IS NOW.

EVEN THOUGH THEY HAD WON THE TITLE.

IT'S LIKE, I DUNNO, THE ATMOSPHERE WAS REALLY BAD.

JUST WHAT?

IT'S JUST...

I WENT TO GO AND SEE THE FINAL;

AND I KNOW I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING, BUT...

NOT EVEN A SINGLE PLAYER CELEBRATED WITH, OR EVEN GLANCED AT, KAWAKAMI.

.....

.....
.....

UH... SO, AT THE KOSHIEN EVEN THOUGH THEY HAD CONCEDED 12 RUNS, WHY DIDN'T THEY MAKE A CHANGE?

WAS THERE NO ONE ELSE?

.....

EH, ME?

I THOUGHT THAT IF I TOLD YOU, YOU MIGHT GO CRAZY, SO I KEPT QUIET...

THIS IS JUST SOMETHING I HEARD, BUT...

!?

IT SEEMS THAT FROM THE START SASAZAKI THREW THE GAME.

IN LAST YEAR'S KOSHIEN,

GUH!

山

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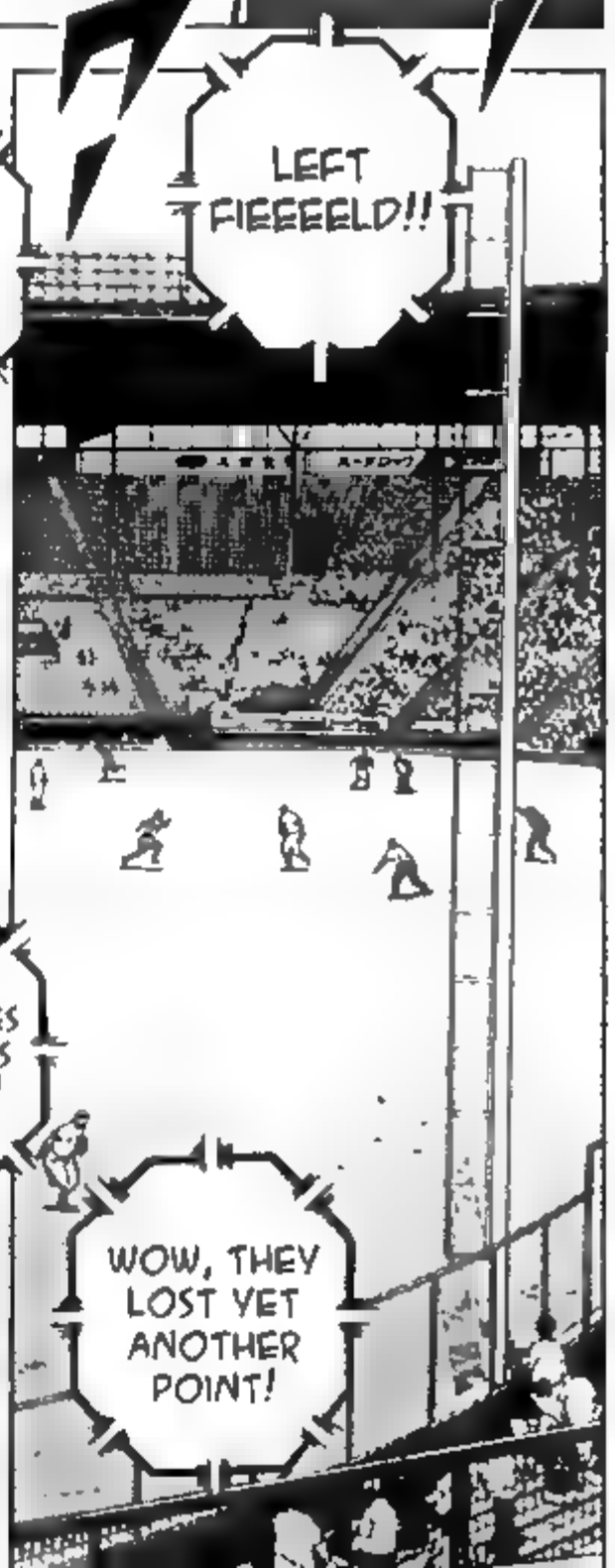
AGH!

FOUL BALL!

74

IT'S THE THIRD TIME!


LEFT FIEEEEELD!!
WOW, THEY LOST YET ANOTHER POINT!

MOREOVER, THEY HAVEN'T EVEN BEEN ABLE TO GET A SINGLE STRIKEOUT!
3
THAT MAKES 5 FIVE HITS IN A ROW!

DOES HE HAVE NO INTENTION OF USING HIS TRADEMARK FORK IN THE KOSHIEN!?

WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?

THE FRESHMAN ACE KAWAKAMI, WHO PRACTICALLY SINGLE-HANDEDLY WON THE PRE-LIMINARIES WITH HIS PITCHING.

AH, FOR FUCK'S SAKE, WE HAVEN'T EVEN DECIDED WHICH KIND OF BALL YOU'RE GONNA THROW...

YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT YOU NEED TO LISTEN TO ME..

OI, GIVE ME A FUCKING BREAK... YOU AREN'T GOING TO BE ABLE TO STRIKE THEM OUT WITH ONLY YOUR FORK...

HOW CAN THEY KEEP HITTING IT!?

NO ONE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HIT MY FORK!

HOW IS IT POSSIBLE!?

THE LIKES OF YOU BASTARDS AIN'T GOOD ENOUGH TO HIT IT.

IN THE PRELIMINARIES, NO ONE COULD HIT IT.

TO HIT MY BALL!

HITACH

9

HIRAKU

WHY...

WHY CAN YOU HIT MY BALL...!?

ROOKIES (ルーキーズ)

ROOKIES IS BACK BABY!
COME HELP US FINISH A GREAT MANGA BY APPLYING ON EITHER THE DEADBEAT OR ILLUMINATI FORUMS. ALSO, BE SURE TO CHECK OUT MANY OTHER GREAT SERIES DONE BY EITHER GROUP.

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Vol.180

THE SPIRIT OF -KOME-HYAPPYO

AND STILL NO OUTS, UNBELIEVABLE.

BASES ARE LOADED WITH NO OUTS!

THAT'S THE SIXTH RUN!

PERHAPS HE IS THINKING ABOUT WHO TO SUB IN.

AND THERE IS NO MOVEMENT FROM CHIBA-SAN'S BENCH.

INCLUDING THE THIRD YEAR, SEITOU, WHO LOST HIS STARTING POSITION TO KAWAKAMI.

THERE ARE THREE OTHER PITCHERS IN THE DUGOUT.

THE FIRST-YEAR ACE DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE ANYTHING ELSE UP HIS SLEEVE.

.....
.....

C-COACH, COULD YOU PLEASE...

WAAALK!

AH-! IT'S A WALK!

IS IT POSSIBLE THAT KAWAKAMI HAS COMPLETELY LOST HIS FOCUS!?

THAT'S ADDED YET ANOTHER POINT! IT'S THE SEVENTH POINT NOW!

PTU

SUB HIM NOW!

GET HIM OFF!!

エステム

THERE IS A CLEAR CONSENSUS WITHIN THE FANS ON THE 1ST BASE SIDE OF THE STADIUM.

HE'S USE-LESS!

HE'S BEYOND HOPELESS NOW!!! C'MON COACH, SUB HIM!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YA DOIN' OUT THERE!?

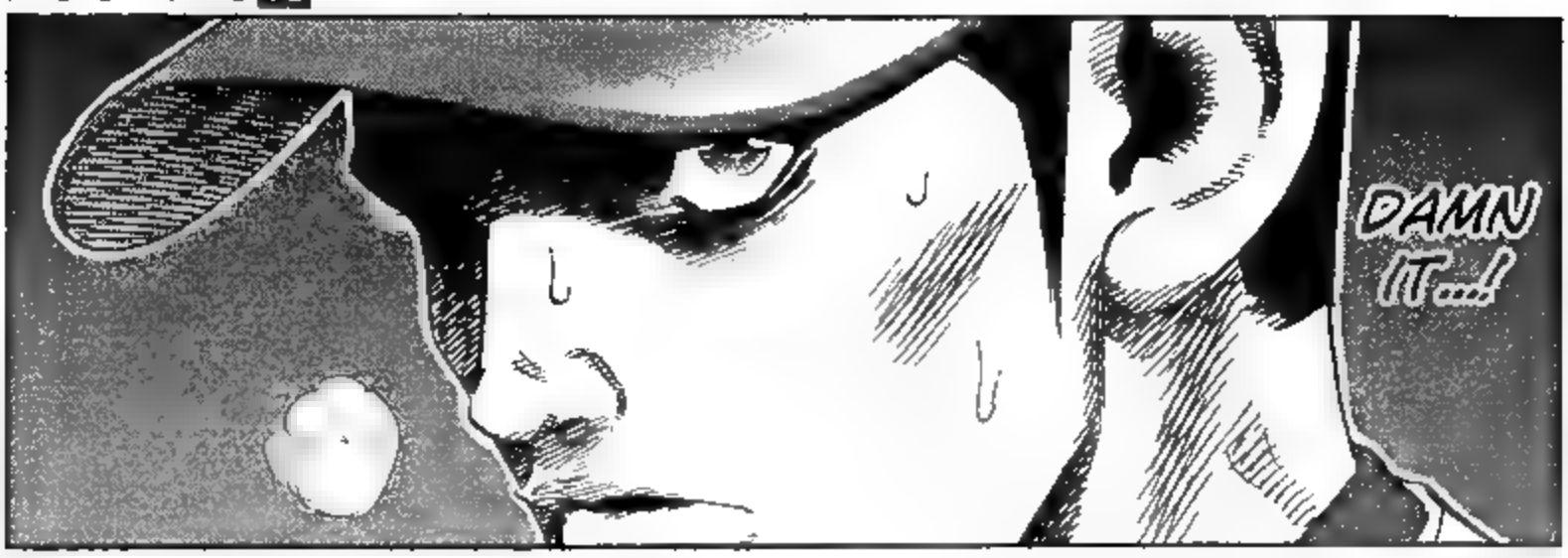
TAKE KAWA-KAMI OUT!

HUH!? WHO..!

WHO THE FUCK DO YA THINK BROUGHT YOU TO THE KOSHIEN IN THE FIRST PLACE?

SHUT THE FUCK UP YOU BUNCH OF FREAKS...

3


DAMN IT...!

COACH ...

THAT WAS FOUR STRAIGHT BALLS!

FOUR BALLS!

BALL!

AND IT'S BASES LOADED AGAIN.

FINALLY THE CAPTAIN, NAGASHIMA, IS MAKING HIS WAY TO KAWAKAMI.

I'D LIKE A TIME OUT PLEASE.

TIIME OUT!

IT'S JUST THAT TODAY I'M NOT AT MY BE...

HEH.

JUST BECAUSE YOU COME OVER HERE DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING IS GONNA CHANGE.

NAGASHIMA'S BUILT UP RAGE HAS FORCED HIM TO GO DIRECTLY TO CHALLENGE THE COACH'S LEADERSHIP?

OR IS IT THAT HE WANTS TO REPLACE KAWAKAMI DIRECTLY?

OH! HE KEPT ON GOING; IS HE GOING TO THE BENCH?

PLEASE ALLOW SOMEONE TO SUB-STITUTE FOR HIM.

KAWAKAMI CAN NO LONGER BE ALLOWED TO PITCH.

PLEASE COACH!

I AGREE COACH! JUST HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN TO LET HIM KEEP GIVING UP RUNS!

IT'S OBVIOUS FROM WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR THAT LETTING HIM CONTINUE WILL ONLY HURT US MORE.

HE'S IGNORING THE CATCHER'S SIGNALS, HE ISN'T COVERING BASES, AND HE HASN'T EVEN BEEN SUCCESSFUL WITH A SINGLE FORK YET.

.....
.....

BUT WE ARE STILL IN THE EARLY INNINGS.

TO BE BLUNT, A SEVEN POINT DIFFERENCE IS ALMOST HOPELESS TO COME BACK FROM.

PLEASE LET ME PITCH!

I PROMISE I'LL DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS!

THE CHANCES ARE SLIM, BUT IF WE CHANGE RIGHT NOW WE MIGHT JUST BE ABLE TO WIN.

COACH!!

IT'S NOT LIKE SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T PRACTICE HARD ENOUGH CAN THROW IN THE REAL THING, THIS IS THE KOSHIEN!

CAUSE HE HAS ALWAYS JUST RELIED ON HIS FORK TO STRIKE OUT PLAYERS, BUT NOW IT'S NOT WORKING.

I MEAN LOOK AT HIM, EVEN KAWAKAMI HAS NO IDEA WHAT TO DO OUT THERE!

THAT'S PRECISELY WHY I'M LETTING HIM PITCH.

I KNOW...

.....
.....

YOU... SURELY YOU DON'T MEAN TO...

...!?

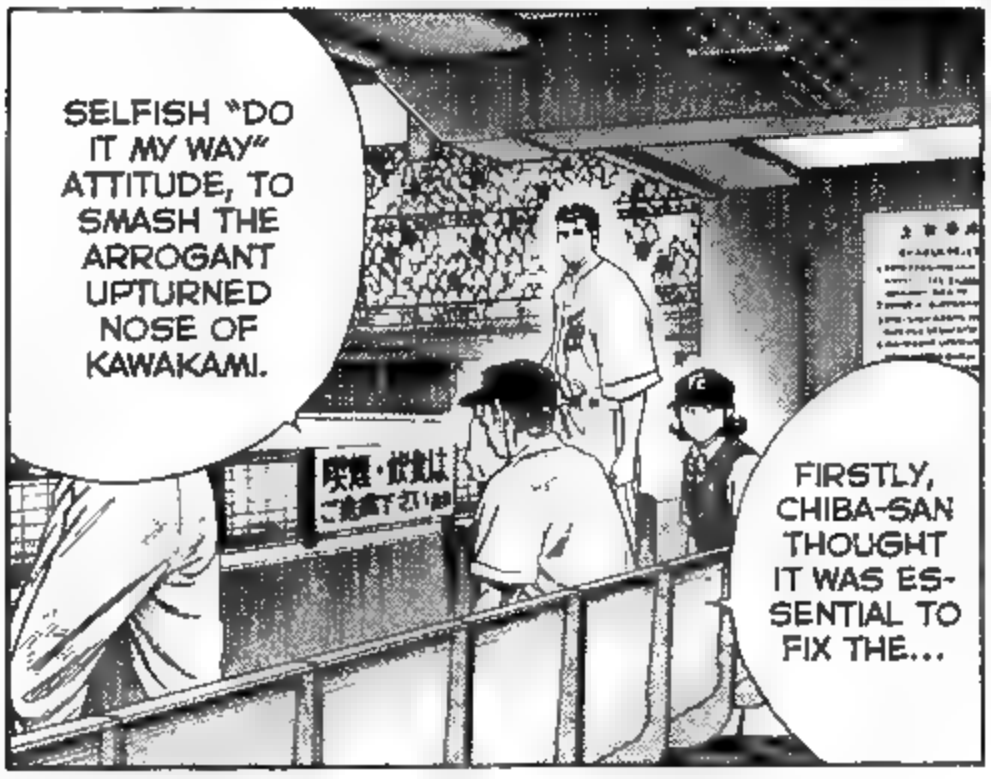
CHATTER CHATTER

CHATTER CHATTER

CHATTER CHATTER

BECAUSE KAWAKAMI IS ESSENTIAL TO THE REVIVAL OF SASAZAKI.

笹崎


SELFISH "DO IT MY WAY" ATTITUDE, TO SMASH THE ARROGANT UPTURNED NOSE OF KAWAKAMI.
FIRSTLY, CHIBA-SAN THOUGHT IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO FIX THE...

CHIBA-SAN ONLY SOUGHT THOSE WHO HAD THE CHARACTERISTICS NEEDED TO DOMINATE THE NATION, BUT, WITHIN THAT HE CREATED THE KAWAKAMI ISSUE.

IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT KAWAKAMI HAS CONTINUED TO REMAIN ON THE 'MOUND OF DESPAIR'

IT IS NECESSARY TO TEACH HIM A LESSON.

IT IS NOT SOMETHING YOU CAN SIMPLY TELL SOMEONE.

ONE'S OWN WEAK POINTS, OR JUST HOW SMALL ONE HUMAN IS IN THE BIGGER SCHEME OF THINGS.

AND HE WILL CREATE A KAWAKAMI COMPLETE OF MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT SO THAT NEXT YEAR...

SLUGGER BESSHO WILL JOIN THE TEAM...

EVEN NOW, CHIBA-SAN ONLY HAS HIS EYES SET ON NEXT SUMMER.

THE RESTORATION OF SASAZAKI WILL BE COMPLETE -- FINISHING HIS MASTERPIECE IF YOU WILL.

THAT IS WHAT WAS ASKED OF CHIBA-SAN...

AND FOR THAT, HE'S WILLING TO CAUSE PAIN TO OTHERS...?

.....
.....

.....

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!!

阪神甲子園球場

EXACTLY.

SURELY YOU AREN'T TELLING US TO BECOME SACRIFICES!?

JUST FOR THE SAKE OF OPENING KAWAKAMI'S EYES!

.....
.....

.....
.....

SO THEN, WHY ARE WE EVEN HERE!?

.....
.....

WHY DID WE PRACTICE SO HARD FOR THESE LAST THREE YEARS!?

DO YOU REALISE THAT THIS TOURNA-MENT IS ALL THAT'S LEFT FOR US!?

.....
.....

I'M SORRY.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND.

UWAA AAAA AH!!

JUST WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK WE ARE!?

UUU...

UUUU GUU...

AAAH ...!

LEAVE IT, SEITOU!

UWAA AAAA!

STOP IT!

.....

TO HELL WITH YOU!!

WHY!?

WHY, DAMN IT!?

THE KOSHIEN... I WANTED TO STAND UPON THE MOUND... I REALLY WANTED TO STAND ON THAT MOUND... FOR THAT AND THAT ALONE I TRAINED SO HARD FOR THESE LAST THREE YEARS...

FOR THAT...

UGU...

UUU...

DAMN IT...

.....
.....

UU...
UUU...

YOU...

DAMN IT...

YOU DON'T KNOW.... YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT US...

COACH.

I KNOW THAT WITHOUT BEING TOLD!

THE EXACT REASON WE WERE ABLE TO COME HERE THIS YEAR IS THANKS TO KAWAKAMI.

BUT... BUT... WE ALL TRIED SO HARD... I JUST FEEL...

JUST LIKE IN THE OLD DAYS?

WITH THIS... WILL SASAZAKI REALLY BECOME STRONGER NEXT YEAR?

AND THEN FROM THE PAIN WE TASTE NOW... SASAZAKI WILL, WITHOUT FAIL, COME BACK VICTORIOUS FROM NEXT YEAR'S KOSHIEN.

WE WILL.

HUU...

UGU...

UUU...

UUUU GUU...

UUUU...

UWAAA...

NAGASHIMA AND MAKIHARA HAVE FINALLY LEFT THE DUGOUT.

IT WAS INDEED A LONG TIME OUT.

TACH

S

!

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UU...

UUU...

UUU...

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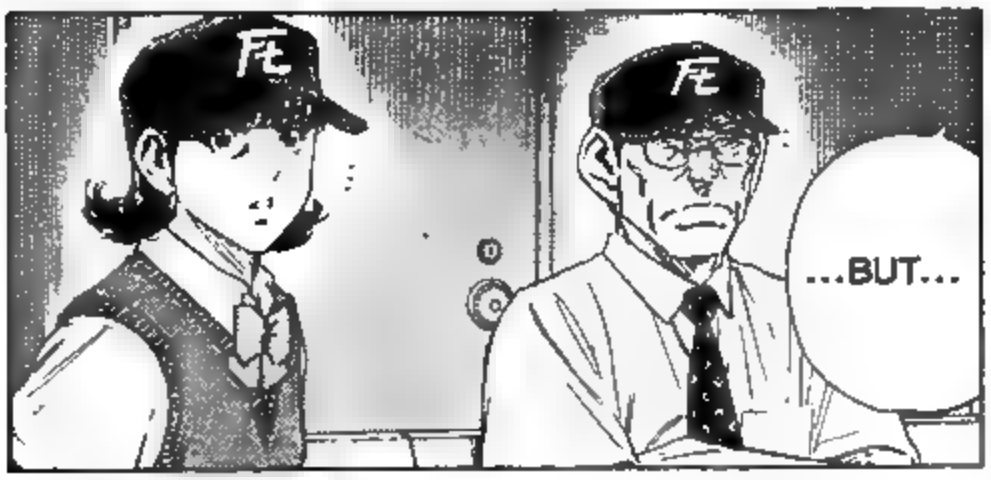
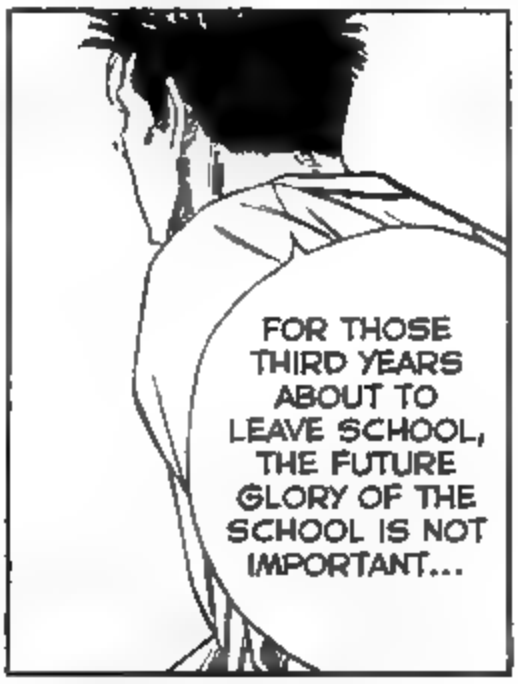
.....
I WONDER JUST HOW TOUGH A DECISION THAT MUST HAVE BEEN.


...BUT...

SASAZAWA
TAMAGAWA
012
FOR A PLAYER WHO HAD ONCE FELT A PAINFUL MEMORY LIKE THAT, THERE IS NO WAY CHIBA-SAN WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND...

TO THROW AWAY AND TREAD UPON THE DREAMS OF PLAYERS IS SOMETHING THAT I CANNOT FORGIVE!


FOR THOSE THIRD YEARS ABOUT TO LEAVE SCHOOL, THE FUTURE GLORY OF THE SCHOOL IS NOT IMPORTANT...

THINGS LIKE THAT...
JUST FOR THE SAKE OF ATTAINING SO CALLED 'GLORY'...

ROOKIES IS BACK BABY!
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Vol.181 Fool to cry

CHATTER CHATTER

CHATTER CHATTER

CHATTER CHATTER

CHATTER CHATTER

笹 山奇

Vol.181
Fool to cry

ROOKIES

NOTHING LIKE THAT TIME...

THIS AIN'T ANY-THING LIKE THAT TIME...

IT'S OKAY...

HITACHI

SONY

YET ANOTHER RUN!

THAT MAKES IT EIGHT!!

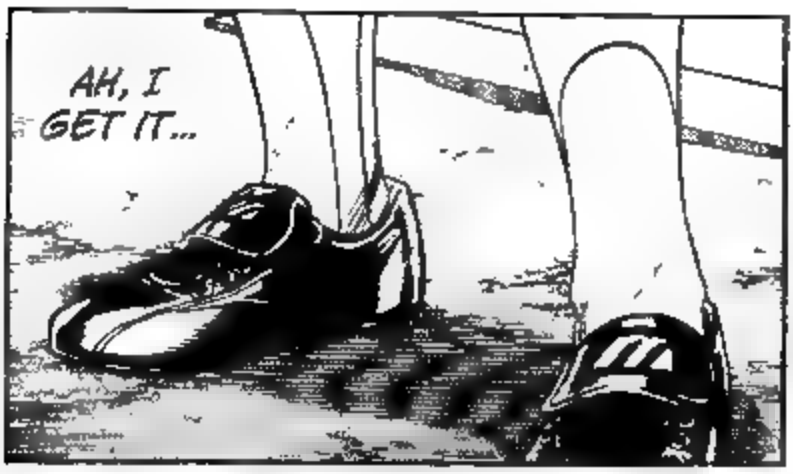
PANASONIC

ロッテガム

IT'S A HIT BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND BASE!

WHY ARE THEY ABLE TO HIT... I'M...
SHIT... WHY...

UUU...
.....
.....
UUU...


AH, I GET IT...

I'M JUST HAVING AN OFF-DAY TODAY, THAT'S ALL... FOR SURE...
I'M JUST...

IT'S MY FORK I'VE BEEN THROWING... NO ONE'S EVER BEEN ABLE TO HIT IT...
BUT THESE GUYS...

I QUIT... IT'S ENOUGH ALREADY...

THEY THINK I'M GONNA DO EVERYTHING FOR THEM?

THERE AIN'T NO WAY IT'S ANY OTHER REASON, IT'S OBVIOUS.

!

YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY WITH JUST HAVING BEEN CARRIED THERE

YOU SHOULD BE THE ONES THANKING ME

I'M THE ONE THAT BROUGHT ALL YOU GUYS HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE

!

HEY SON, WHAT'S WRONG THERE?

I'M GETTING OFF THE MOUND

I AIN'T GOT NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED ABOUT

SURELY HE AIN'T GONNA...

UH...

KAWA-KAMI...

S

HEY, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU THINKING... YOU WANNA RUN AWAY NOW...!?

ARE YOU WANTING A SUB-STITUTION, SON?

.....
.....

.....
.....

S

HEY SON, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
THAT'S RIGHT... I GOTTA WIN THIS ONE... IF I DON'T

WASN'T TODAY
IF I GET OFF THE MOUND, WHAT AM I GONNA HAVE LEFT?

I TRAINED MY WAY, AND I'LL WIN MY WAY! THAT'S MY MOTTO.
I TRAINED WITH MY ALL THROUGH THE TOUGHEST TRAINING, I AIN'T SOME KIND OF LOSER GEEK...

IF I DON'T WIN THEN I WOULDN'T BE ME!

PLAY BALL!
1
IF I DON'T WIN THEN...
SO, THAT'S WHY I'LL WIN THIS...

IT'S YET ANOTHER HIT!!

IT ALREADY SEEMS HOPELESS AGAINST THE NINE RUN LEAD!

HE'S AS PALE AS A GHOST!

JUST HOW MANY MORE OF KAWAKAMI'S PITCHES WILL THEY HIT?

HAH

HAH

HAH

KAWAKAMI...

EVEN IN THIS GRAVE SITUATION, IT DOESN'T APPEAR ANYONE HAS ANY INTENTION OF OFFERING ADVICE TO KAWAKAMI.

HE IS COMPLETELY ALONE OUT THERE ON THE MOUND!

FUCKERS...

HEH... WHO NEEDS YOUR ENCOUR-AGEMENT ANYWAY...?

BUT YOU'RE JUST TAKING ON EVERYTHING ALONE, LIKE AN IDIOT...

WE ALL HONESTLY WANT YOU TO RECOVER...

.....
.....

FUCK THIS!!

I'M....

GOD DAMN IT... I'M...

山崎

WHAT THE HELL AM I...!

WH- WHAT THE FUCK!?

HITACHI

NO ONE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HIT MY FORK...

OR WAS THAT JUST CONCEIT ON MY PART...!?

WAS I SIMPLY INTOXICATED WITH A PITCH I LEARNED BY CHANCE...!?

10

WE'RE A TEAM AIN'T WE?!

ANYTHING AT ALL, JUST SOMEBODY PLEASE SAY SOMETHING!

SOMEONE... SAY ANYTHING... SOMETHING...

C'MON GUYS...

BUT NOW IS DIFFERENT... I'M IN A BAD SPOT HERE...

BUT, THE ONE THAT IGNORED THE REST OF THE TEAM... WAS ME...

DON'T MAKE ME DO THIS ALONE!

HELP ME OUT!!

WHO THE FUCK COULD PLAY BASEBALL ON THEIR OWN!?

PLEASE, NO MORE.

THAT'S IT... I GET IT NOW...

BUT ALL THIS FUCKING TIME...

UNTIL NOW, I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF THOSE AROUND ME

AS NOTHING MORE THAN A BUNCH OF LOSERS, JUST SMALL FRIES...

HAS BEEN ME...

THE BIGGEST LOSER OF ALL...

I GET IT ALREADY...

I ALREADY GET IT, SO...

12

.....
.....

KAWAKAMI...

SUBSTITUTE, YO.

.....
.....

笹崎

.....
.....

!

JUST FOR AN ASSHOLE LIKE YOU...

....!

JUST FOR AN ASSHOLE LIKE YOU... THESE LAST THREE YEARS...

笹崎

笹崎

!

AH! IT SEEMS TO BE A SUBSTITUTION.

...TWELVE POINTS IN THE TOP OF THE INNING, AND NOT EVEN ONE OUT, KAWAKAMI HAS NOW FINALLY BEEN BENCHED!

ALRIGHT, GET IN HERE.

KAWA-KAMI...

笹崎

.....

.....

15

IT'S FROM THIS DAY THAT YOU WILL START TO PLAY TRUE BASEBALL.

UUUU...

神甲学園

UUU... GUH...

UUU...

UGH...

.....
.....

ROOKIES (ルーキーズ)

ROOKIES IS BACK BABY!
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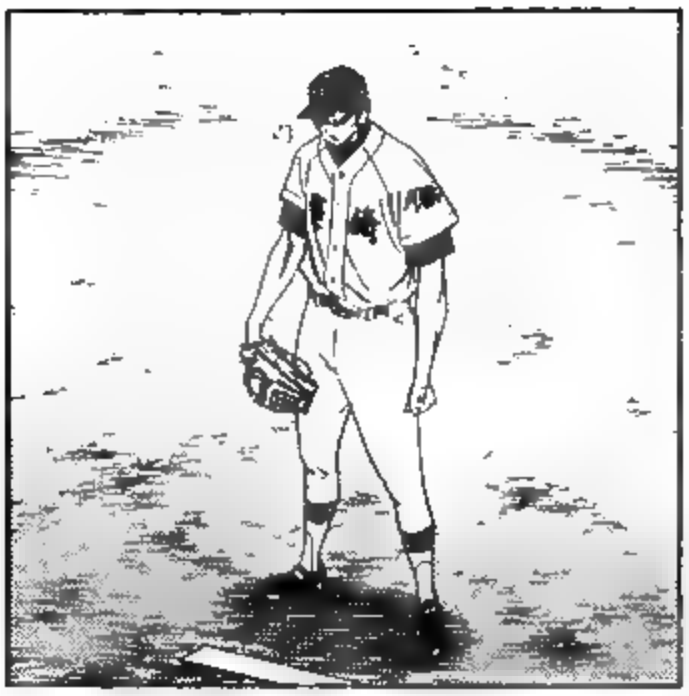
Weakling



LOOKS LIKE THAT NIGHTMARE FROM THE KOUSHIEN IS BURNED INTO HIS BRAIN.
LOSING THE LEAD UNEX-PECTEDLY, FOLLOWED BY TWO FOUL BALLS THAT WERE WAY OFF.

I THINK THAT WE WOULD HAVE WON WITH A SCORE OF SIX TO FIVE IF I HAD PITCHED FROM THE BEGINNING!
BUT WE SCORED SIX TOO...
THE OTHER TEAM SCORED FIVE MORE AFTERWARDS, WHICH GAVE THEM A TOTAL OF SEVENTEEN RUNS...

THIS TIME, AT THE KOUSHIEN, THE NAME SASAZAKI WILL RESOUND THROUGH THE NATION LIKE THUNDER!

SASAZAKI IS GONNA WIN THIS TOURNA-MENT FOR SURE.

EVEN NOW I STILL CAN'T ACCEPT WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY.

C'MON SAITOU, LET'S NOT TALK ABOUT THAT ANY-MORE.

WINNING THIS GAME...

WE WERE THE FOUNDATION FOR THE REVIVAL OF SASAZAKI,

AIN'T THAT ENOUGH?

YOU NEVER CAN TELL.

WIN-NING?

HE'S JUST LIKE US. BASEBALL IS ALL HE'S GOT IN HIS LIFE.

NO WAY HE'D QUIT. COACH AT LEAST KNEW THAT.

IF THAT ASSHOLE HAD QUIT, I WOULD HAVE BEATEN HIM TO DEATH.

AFTER THAT TOURNAMENT KAWAKAMI DIDN'T COME FOR A WHILE, EH. I THOUGHT HE'D QUIT!

HEY, DUMBASS! WHAT THE FUCK DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, KAWAKAMI!? PLAY PROPERLY!

TCH.

!?

WITH NAGASHIMA-SAN AND MAKIHARA-SAN.

HEY! IT'S SAITOU-SAN!

CHATTER

YO- YOU GUYS CAME TO SEE US.

SE- SENPAI!

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE TOP PITCHER IN SASAZAKI, AIN'T YA!?

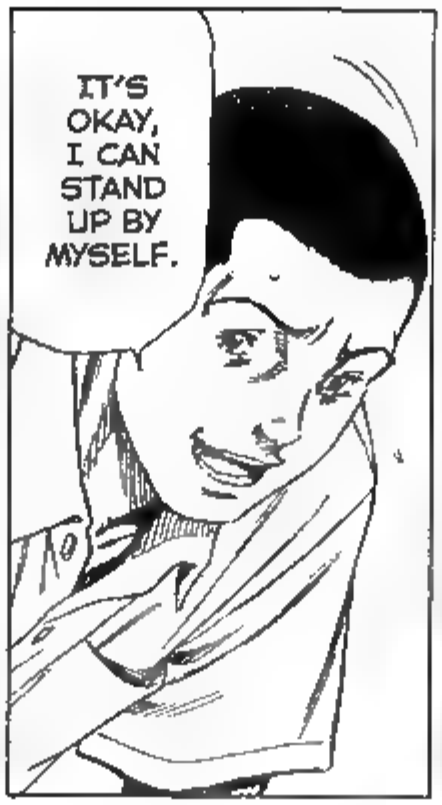
1

1A

SA- SAITOU-SAN!

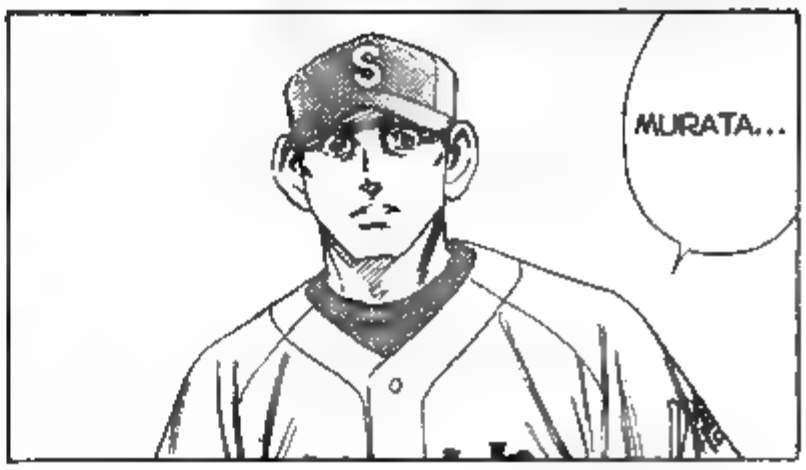
THE TEAM THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE REBORN! SHOW IT TO EVERYONE, YOU SHITTY ACE!

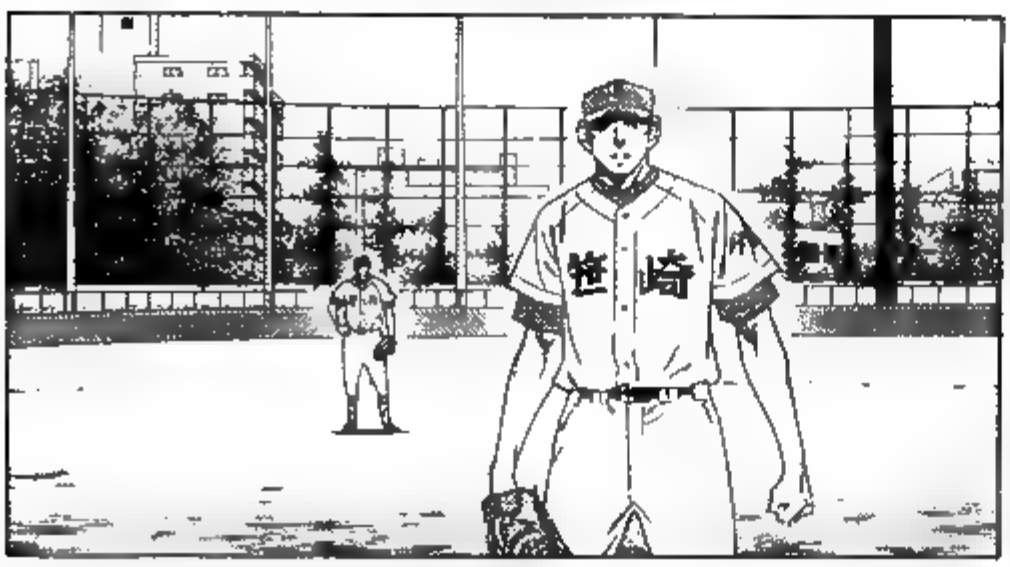
!


IT'S OKAY, I CAN STAND UP BY MYSELF.

MURATA!
AGH!

UGH...


MURATA...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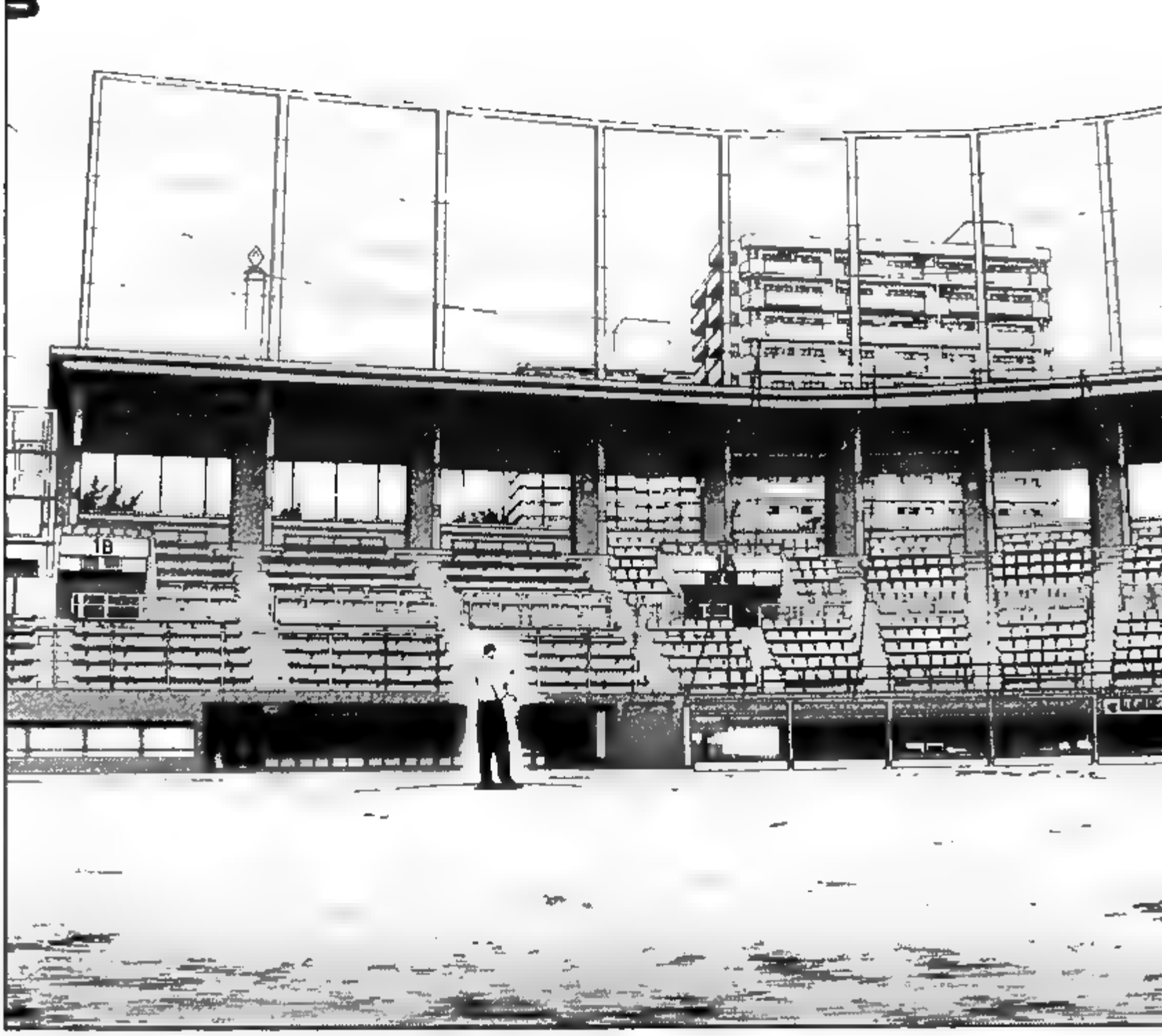
笹崎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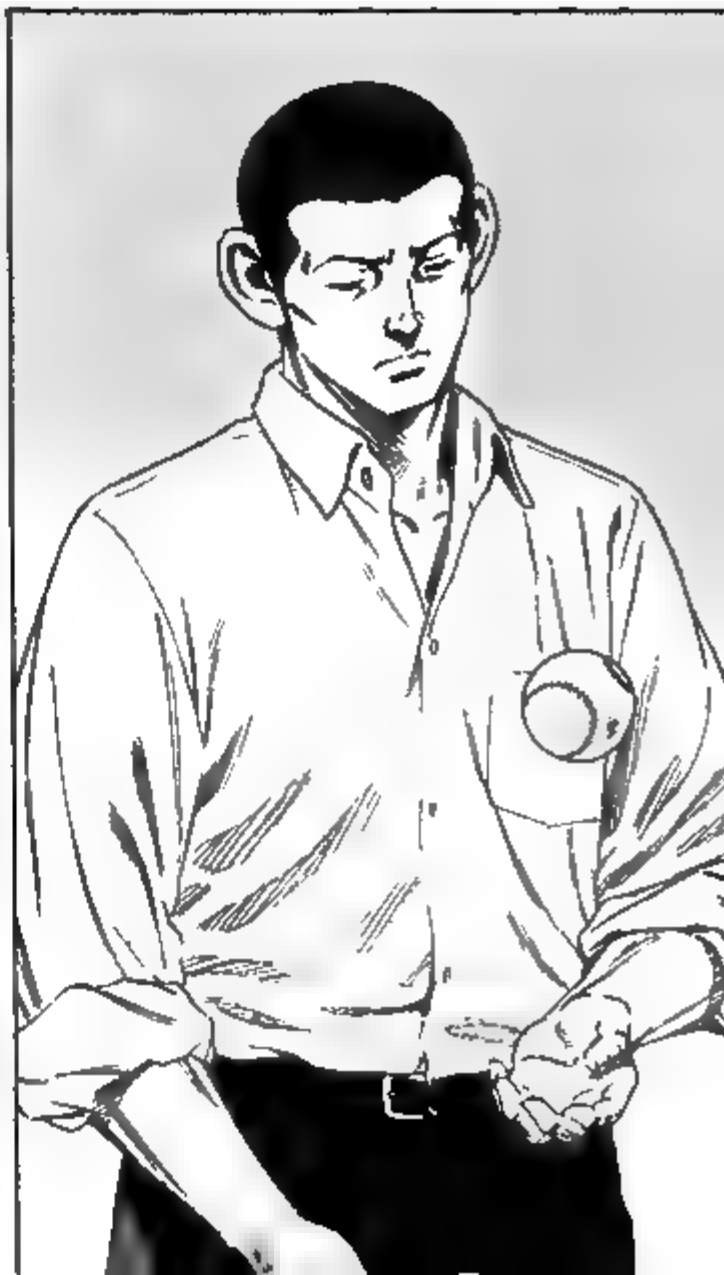
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE HERE...

UP WE GO.



IT'S NOTHIN', REALLY.

キコ キシ

IT'S BECAUSE THIS WAS THE PLACE THAT YOU SHINED THE MOST.

.....

YOU WON'T EVEN SHOW YOUR FACE IN CLUB PRACTICE, BUT YOU'RE HERE IMMERSED IN SOME SENTIMENTAL RUT.

WELL 'CAUSE, RECORDING INFO AND REMEMBERING STUFF IS ABOUT ALL I CAN DO.

YOU'VE GOT A GOOD MEMORY FOR MEANING-LESS INFO...

.....

HMPH ...

YOU PITCHED A NO HITTER IN BOTH THE SPRING AND SUMMER TOURNAMENT.

IT WAS HERE THAT YOU GOT NINE CONSECUTIVE THREE PITCH STRIKE OUTS.

NOT JUST THAT, WE'VE NEVER LOST HERE.

.....

DON'T QUIT, KAWA-KAMI.

I'M SURE YOU MORE THAN UN-DERSTAND THAT NOW.

YOU HAVE TO ASK FOR FORGIVENESS AND LET THEM SEE THAT YOU'RE A CHANGED MAN.

HMMM... I JUST DUNNO WHAT I SHOULD DO...

...FINALLY...

SO JUST WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANNA DO?

...I'M SO ASHAMED...

.....

I UNDER-STAND, IT'S JUST...

YEAH, I UNDER-STAND...

SHUT THE FUCK UP, YOU CAN'T EVEN PLAY CATCH!

.....

...UH...

ABSO-LUTELY NOTHING!

WHAT WILL YOU HAVE LEFT IF YOU QUIT BASEBALL?

BASEBALL IS ABOUT THE ONLY THING YOU CAN DO!

.....

BUT 'CAUSE I LOVE BASEBALL, I DID MY BEST TO LEARN HOW TO RECORD THE SCORE SHEETS AND STATS.

I'VE BEEN STUCK WITH THESE LEGS SINCE BIRTH...

...I CAN'T...

AND THEN YOU EVEN HAD THE AUDACITY TO SAY TO THE BULLIES "HEY, EVEN THIS GUY CAN GO TO THE KOUSHIEN!"

FOR YEARS AND YEARS, EVERYONE MADE FUN OF ME, DIDN'T ACCEPT ME. YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE THAT DIDN'T MAKE FUN OF MY LEGS.

REALLY...

I DON'T CARE... BUT... WELL, I WAS SO HAPPY....

ALL THANKS TO YOU.

FOLLOWING THAT, I WAS ACTUALLY ABLE TO GO THERE.

HM?

WE PROBABLY JUST BECAME FRIENDS BECAUSE I HAPPEN TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT BASE-BALL, BUT...

EH! ONE MORE TIME KAWAKAMI! LET'S GO TO THE KOUSHIEN ONE MORE TIME!

.....

NO MATTER WHAT ANYONE SAYS!

EVEN IF YOU HAVE TO GET ON YOUR HANDS AND KNEES AND BEG! YOU GOTTA KEEP PLAYING!

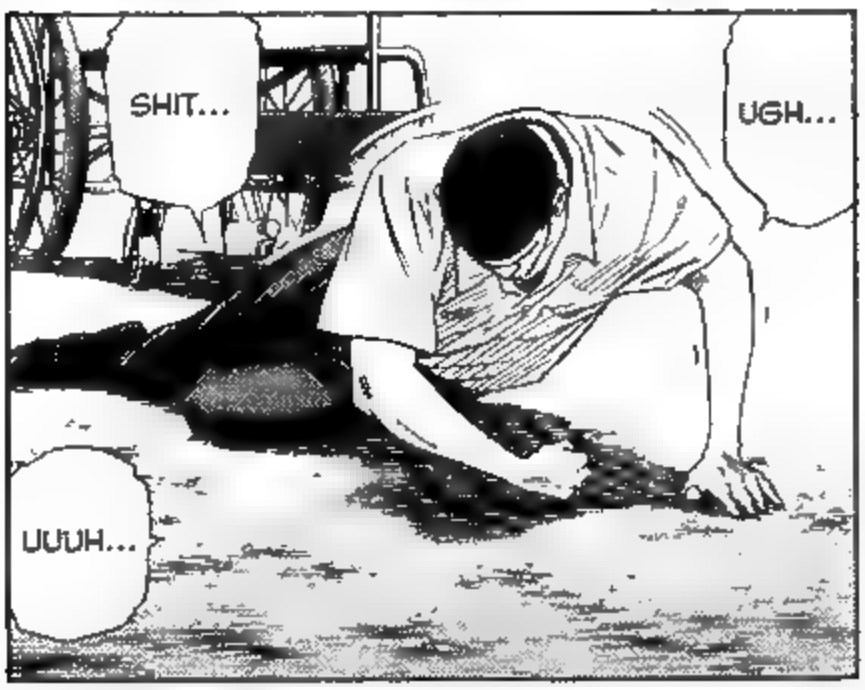
WITH THE WAY YOU ARE NOW, EVEN I SHOULD JUST ABOUT BE ABLE TO PLAY CATCH WITH YOU!

WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE!
KAWA-KAMI!

.....

OW!

UGH...
H-HEY...


SHIT...
UGH...
UUUH...

DON'T COME ANY CLOSER! I CAN STAND UP BY MYSELF!
MU-RATA!

MU-
RATA...

IF
YOU QUIT,
WHAT THE
HELL AM I
SUPPOSED
TO DO...

JUST GO
BACK TO
BEING A
LONER
AGAIN...

HURRY,
PICK UP
THAT
BALL.

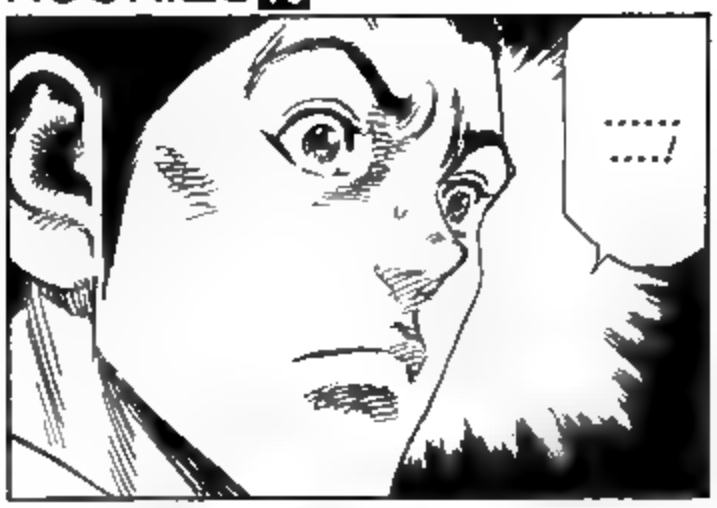
C'MON
THROW
THE
BALL.

S-
SEE...
LOOK
AT
ME...

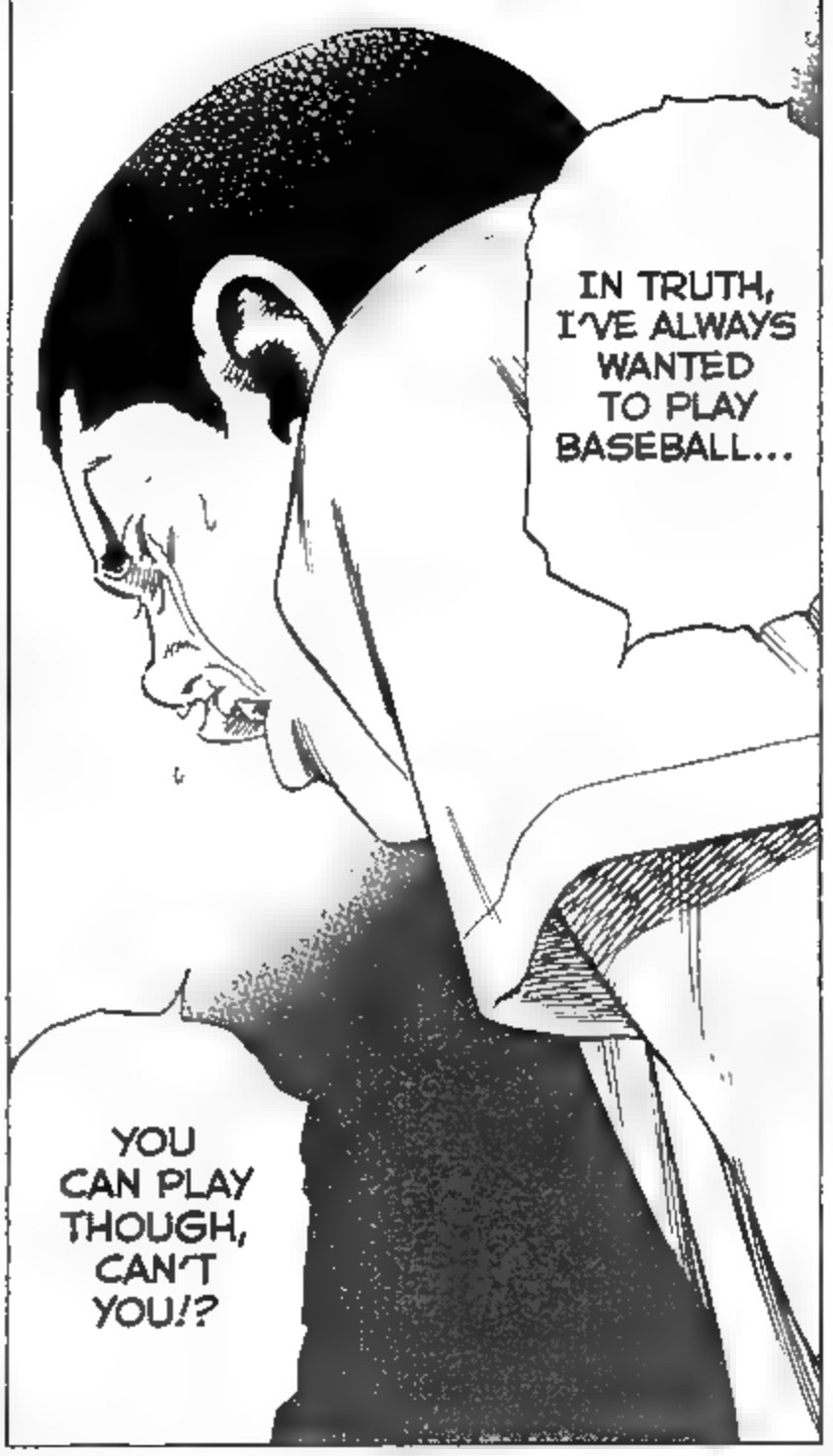
I'M
STAND-
ING.

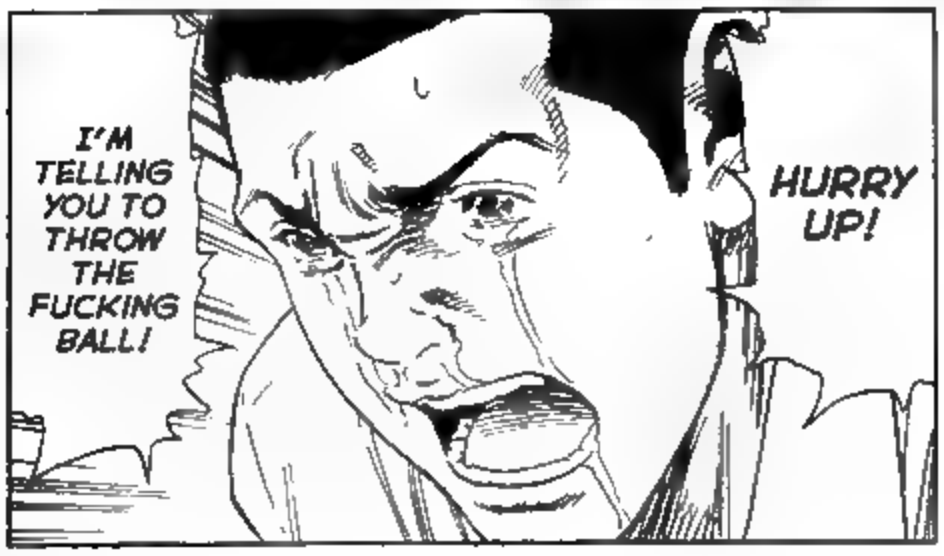
*I'M
FUCKING
TELLING
YOU TO
THROW
THE BALL!*

*THROW
THE BALL,
YOU WEAK-
LING!*


.....
....!

UUGH...
AH...
.....
.....
UUUU...


IN TRUTH, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO PLAY BASEBALL...
YOU CAN PLAY THOUGH, CAN'T YOU!?


I'M TELLING YOU TO THROW THE FUCKING BALL!
HURRY UP!

.....

HEHE...

SEE, I'M STAND-ING...

CHATTER

CHATTER

SENPAI...

.....
.....

!

MU-RATA...

EXACTLY, SO LIKE I WAS SAYIN', JUST KEEP THROWING THAT FORK OF YO—

STOP GOIN' ON ABOUT THAT, MAN!

HEY, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU ZONING OUT FOR, MAN?

.....
.....

THEY ARE ONLY LEADING BY ONE POINT!

THIS AIN'T NOTHIN' TO BE WORRYIN' ABOUT!

AYE! DON'T BE NERVOUS, JUST PITCH THE WAY YOU ALWAYS DO!

JUST LEAVE IT TO US!

DON'T PANIC DUDE, WE'RE RIGHT BEHIND YA!

AL-RIGHT, IT'S TWO OUTS!

.....
.....

EVERY-
ONE...

I'VE GOT EVERYONE HERE SUPPORTING ME...

HAH, I ALMOST FORGOT...

I AIN'T ALONE HERE...!

THIS... THIS IS WHAT BASEBALL IS ALL ABOUT!

PLAY BALL!

AND I'LL WORK HARD TO MAKE UP FOR THE SACRIFICE OF MY SENPAI!

I'LL DEFINITELY TAKE YOU TO THE KOUSHIEN THREE MORE TIMES, MURATA!

AND THIS TIME, I'LL SHOW THEM MY TRUE STRENGTH!

ONE MORE TIME FOR SURE!

NO... SUMMER, SPRING, SUMMER... THERE'S THREE MORE TIMES LEFT!

FOR THE REAL SASAZAKI!!

15U.M

OOOUT!

I GOT IT.

YEEE EEEE EEES SS!

ROOKIES ルーキーズ

ROOKIES IS BACK BABY!
COME HELP US FINISH A GREAT MANGA BY APPLYING ON EITHER THE DEADBEAT OR ILLUMINATI FORUMS. ALSO, BE SURE TO CHECK OUT MANY OTHER GREAT SERIES DONE BY EITHER GROUP.

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GREAT, KAWAKAMI! IT STARTS NOW! LET'S GET SERIOUS!

IT STARTS NOW!

OH YEAH!! NICE PITCH!!!

AL-RIGHT!

C'MON, SASAZAKI! GET US AT LEAST ONE POINT!

HOLY SHIT, DID YOU SEE THE SPEED OF THAT!?

EVEN FOR THE SAKE OF PROTECTING THE GLORY OF THE SCHOOL... THE BELIEF THAT THE DREAMS OF A NUMBER OF STUDENTS CAN BE SACRIFICED FOR THAT...

EVEN FOR THE SAKE OF CREATING A STRONGER TEAM...

Vol.183 This Years Spectacle

FUCK IT...

WHOA, THAT WAS ONE FAST PITCH!

OH YEAH, BABY!

BUT WE MANAGED TO TAKE THE LEAD!!

NO MATTER WHAT, I CAN NEVER FORGIVE THAT.

WHAT'CHA TALKIN' ABOUT OUT THE BLUE?

HUH? WHAT YOU BLABBERING ABOUT?

IS THIS FORGIV-ABLE? CAN YOU EVEN THINK OF FORGIV-ING THIS?

EVERYONE HAS THE SAME RIGHT TO HAVE A DREAM...

EFFORT IS SOMETHING THAT SHOULD NEVER TO BE USED FOR PROTECTING THE TRADITION OR GLORY OF THE SCHOOL.

AND THEN WE'LL SHOW THEM!

LISTEN UP! NO MATTER WHAT, WE CANNOT FAIL TO WIN THIS MATCH!

AND THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN MAKE THOSE DREAMS COME TRUE ARE YOURSELVES! SO THAT YOU MAY GLITTER INTO TOMORROW!

YOUR PULSATING DREAMS ARE NOBODY'S BUT YOUR OWN!

COME ON!

HEY!

THOSE WHO DO WILL ACCOMPLISH, THOSE WHO DON'T WILL REACH!

IT'S COOL, WE BASICALLY KNOW WHAT HE WANTS TO SAY ALREADY.

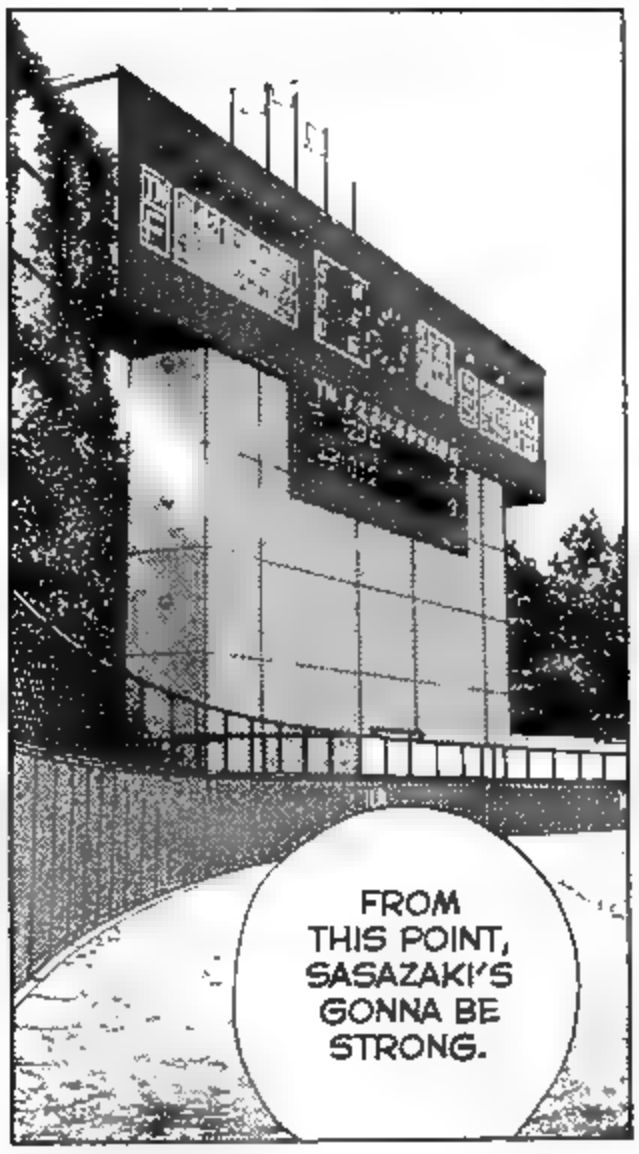
NOBODY'S LISTENING.

COACH CHIBA...

LET'S GO!
HEEEEYY YYOOOO!

NIKOGAKU!
WE WILL WIN FOR SURE...!!

WELL, IT'S RARE FOR SOMEONE TO TAKE THE LEAD AGAINST THESE GUYS.
WOW, IN THIS EARLY INNING SA-SAZAKI ARE ALREADY FORMING A CIRCLE...


FROM THIS POINT, SASAZAKI'S GONNA BE STRONG.

150!?
WHAT? NO WAY!
OI, LISTEN TO THIS! THAT SPEED GUN SAID THAT LAST PITCH WAS 150KM!!

.....
.....
LOOKS LIKE NIKOGAKU TAKING THE LEAD HAS GOT THE CHAMPIONS FIRED UP!

AW SHIT!

EVEN THOUGH I TOLD THEM TO BE VERY CAREFUL WITH THE FIRST PITCH!

EVEN THOUGH I TOLD THEM TO BE VERY CAREFUL WITH THE FIRST PITCH...

YEEESS! DOWN CENTRE FIELD!

BATTING FOURTH, THIRD BASE.

BESSHOU-KUN.

YEAH! GO FOR IT!

SMASH IT, MAN! SMASH IT!

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, BESSHOU! ONE MORE HOMER!

TAKE THIS! AND THAT!

BESS-HOU-!

AW FUCK... NOT THIS GUY...

THIRD BASE, BESSHOU-KUN.

HAHA, SORRY FOR KEEPIN' YA WAITIN'!

BESS-HOU!

YOU'RE PRETTY BIG. YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'D BE WEAK AGAINST INSIDE PITCHES.

SO, HOW ABOUT AN INSIDE LOW ONE AS FIRST PITCH?

TRASH TALKING TACTICS DON'T WORK AGAINST ME.

ONEGAI SHI-MASU.

.....
.....

.....
.....

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE NIKOGAKU?

AKABOSHI, OUR COACH WENT TO SCOUT YOU, RIGHT?

.....
.....

OH, THAT SO?

THEN... AH, NEVER MIND.

IF ONLY YOU JOINED, THEN OUR BECOMING CHAMPIONS WOULD'VE BEEN GUARANTEED!

WHY DIDN'T YOU JOIN US!?

IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, I SAW SOME OF YOUR GAMES.

YOU WERE A NATURAL IN BOTH OFFENSE AND DEFENSE.

AH? TO SCOUT ME? CHIBA-SAN?

DON'T REMEMBER, REALLY... TOO MANY CAME ALONG...

'CAUSE IT'S CLOSE TO MY APART-MENT.

HMMMM~

WHAT WAS IT THAT WAS SO ATTRACTIVE ABOUT JOINING NIKOGAKU?

YOU AIN'T GONNA GO TO THE KO-SHIEN WITH THEM...

ぐぐ

URGH!

ぐぐ

EXACTLY.

WH-WHAT? JUST 'CAUSE OF THAT?

STOP TALKING!

WHAT ABOUT THE KOSHIEN? DON'T YOU CARE ABOUT THAT?

JUST WHAT IS BASEBALL TO YOU!?

GRRR!

HEY BIG BOY, IT'S COMING.

RRRAAAA AGHHH!

RIGHT FIELD!

GOT IT!

WHOA, HE PUT WAY TOO MUCH POWER INTO THAT...

IT JUST KEEPS GOING UP AND UP.

TOGETHER WITH KAWAKAMI, THEY MAKE SASAZAKI'S PILLAR.

THE BIGGEST REASON THAT PEOPLE HAVE SUCH BELIEF IN COACH CHIBA'S RECOVERY OF THE TEAM IS THAT POWER HOUSE RIGHT THERE.

I HIT IT TOO HIGH UP.

AH—

THIS KID...

BUT IF HE GOES TO THE KOSHIEN IN TOP SHAPE THIS YEAR,
I GOT IT...

HE DIDN'T EVEN SCORE ONCE IN LAST YEAR'S KOSHIEN
BECAUSE OF HIS POOR HEALTH...

!

HUH?

A LARGE AMOUNT OF PRO TEAMS WILL BE INTER-ESTED IN HIM DURING THE NEXT DRAFT!

WH-?

.....
.....

IT'S OUUUT!

笹崎

NO WAAAAY! AMAZ-ING!!

AWE-SOME!!

カラーン

.....
.....

YOU'LL REGRET IT, AKABOSHI...

S

FOR NOT HAVING CHOSEN SASAZAKI.

WHA...

HOW COULD HE HIT IT THAT FAR...

WHAT WAS THAT...

BESS-HOU!!

YEAH! BESSHOU!!

WE EASILY TURNED IT AROUND AGAIN!

SASAZIMA 2002
FUTAGO-TAMAGAWA 0120

IN YOUR FACE, NIKO-GAKU!

OUR PLAYERS ARE ON ANOTHER LEVEL!

YOU'RE THE BEST!!

EVEN THOUGH THAT WAS SUP-POSED TO BE AN EASY OUT...

THIS MAKES IT HIS 69TH.../

BAS-TARDS!

THEY'RE GONNA GET RIGHT INTO THEIR RHYTHM SOON!

HUH?

YOU'RE STILL NERVOUS?

THAT'S WHY WE ARE STRONG.

AND THE AMOUNT WE PRACTICE? AIN'T NO WAY WE WILL LOSE.

THE WAY THEY'VE BEEN BUILT UP CAN'T EVEN COMPARE WITH US.

THEY WERE MORE OR LESS CONFUSED BY SAIGAKU'S RECKLESS OFFENSE, BUT IT'S OVER NOW.

THERE AIN'T NO WAY THAT OUR JUNIORS ARE GONNA LOSE TO CAREER FIRST YEAR ROOKIES.

EVERY DAY, THESE GUYS ARE STILL DOING THE SAME HARD TRAINING THAT WE DO.

1A

Ft

UGH!

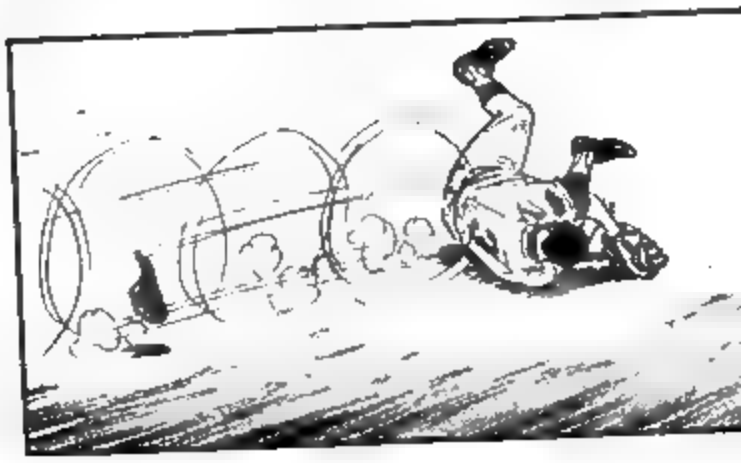
AH! HE GOT IT!

WAIT... YEAH, IT'S GOING! SAFE HIT ON THE INFIELD TRAJECTORY!

ナイス!

10

OUUU UUT!



YEAH!

BATTER OUT!

STRRR RRIKE!

U

5

ROOKIES IS BACK BABY!
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FUCK, THAT'S WAY TOO QUICK, LET ME GET A BIT MORE REST, EH.
AH, WELL, TODAY IS A LITTLE COOLER THAN OTHER DAYS RECENTLY.
AND ON TOP OF THAT, IT'S ROASTIN' HOT TODAY.

Vol.184 The Summer of Isolation

FOUL!

UGH—

HE'S PERSISTENT. SEVEN FOULS AFTER THE FULL COUNT.

THEY GOTTA BE DOIN' IT ON PURPOSE, YO.

FOUL!

FUCK-ERS... COME ON, ANIYA!!

GIVE IT TO THEM!!

OH!? WHAT'S THAT? TIME TO SUBSTITUE WITH ME!?

LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE TRYING TO TIRE ANIYA OUT.

I CAN BELIEVE THAT! THAT'S THE KIND OF SCUMMY PLAN I'D EXPECT FROM THAT COACH OF THEIRS!

SHIT, AFTER ALL THOSE BIG HITS, WHY'RE THEY BUNTIN' NOW.

NICE BUNT, DUDE!

AWESOME! GO GO!

RAH—!

THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKIN' ABOUT!

NICE PLAY!

NICE, ANIYA! NICE!

AWE-SOME!

OUT!

HELL YEAH!

LEAVE IT TO ME, PLEASE!

GYA HAHAHA! FUCKIN' RIGHT, DUDE! AT LEAST YOU CAN ATTACK THEM VER-BALLY!

WHAT? NOT YET!? OI, WHEN THE HELL AM I GONNA GET TO PLAY!?

SHIT, MAN... WHY, AT A TIME LIKE THIS, CAN'T I EVEN PLAY...

YOU FAGS AIN'T GONNA BE GOING TO THE KOUSHIEN EVER AGAIN! DON'T UNDERESTIMATE NIKOGAKU!!!

HA HA HA!! SEE THAT, SASAZAKI ASSHOLES!?

YOU'RE OUR SECRET WEAPON! AT THE MOST IMPORTANT POINT OF THE MATCH, THAT'S WHEN WE'LL NEED YOUR POWER MOST!

IT'S LIKE I ALWAYS SAY!

HEY YOU, SURELY YOU AIN'T FORGOT-TEN ABOUT ME!

DON'T BE STUPID!

.....

.....

IT'S NOT LIKE I COULD WASTE SUCH A POWER AS YOURS!

I HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR YOU, HIRATSUKA!

DAMN STRAIGHT!

HAHA...

HAHA HA...

12

WHO THE FUCK ARE YOU TALKIN' TO, DUDE?

GAHAHA HAHA! YOU HEAR THAT, HUH? YOU HEAR THAT, ASS-WIPES!?

.....
.....

OKAY, GO, GO, YEAH!

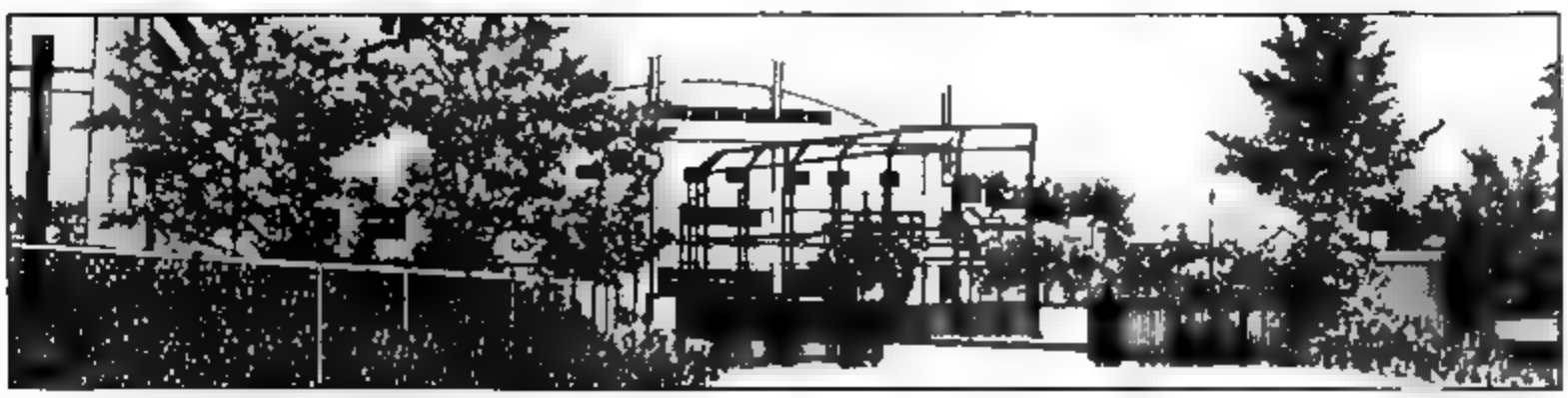
LET'S GO, NIGOGAKU! LET'S GO!

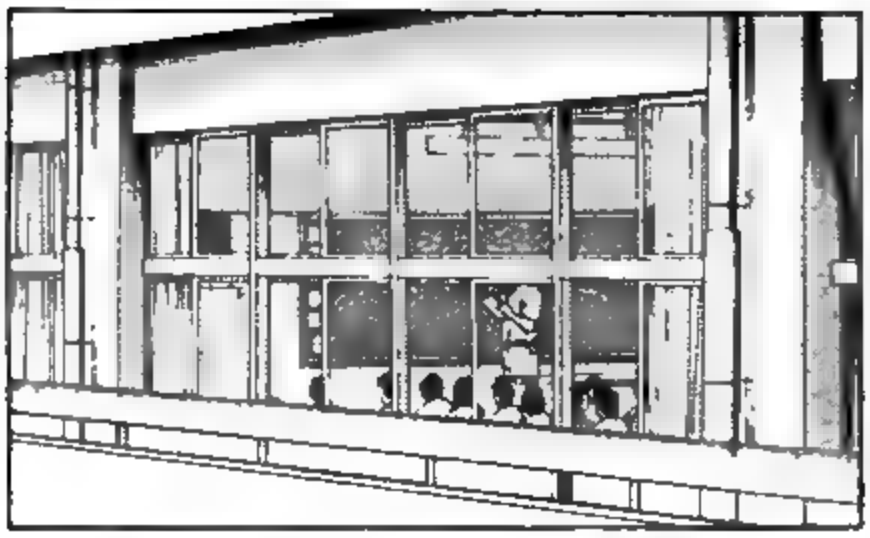
オオ!!!

STRIKE!

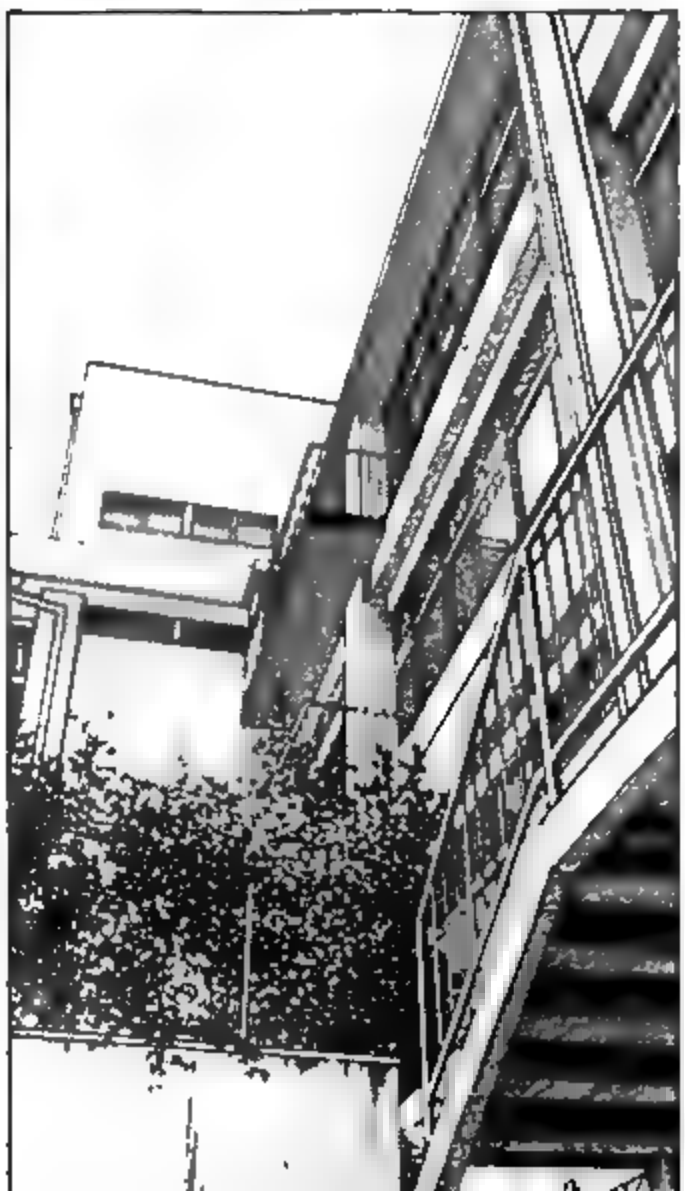
YEAH!

.....
.....





職員室
AH~



PLEASE GOD, TELL ME WHY THE A.C. IS BROKEN...

HO~T...

I WONDER IF HE'LL DIE FROM SUN-STROKE...

PFFT, WHO THE HELL WOULD GO AND PLAY ANYWAY.

KAWATOU-KUN IS REALLY SOMETHING TO BE PLAYING BASEBALL ON A DAY LIKE THIS.

I WONDER WHICH INNING THEY'RE IN NOW...

!

PLEASE HAVE SOME TEA!

....

AH! HAHAHA! SOME HOT TEA WAS JUST WHAT I WANTED! YOU'RE SO CONSIDERATE, FUJITA-SENSEI!

ARE YOU DOING THIS ON PURPOSE!?

DON'T TELL ME HE'LL ACTUALLY GET TO PLAY—

EVEN THOUGH HE AIN'T EVER PLAYED BASEBALL BEFORE.

YOU IDIOT.

BUT HEY, HE'S DOING PRETTY WELL TO KEEP IT UP.

HUH?

BEST HE'S CAPABLE OF IS JUST SHOUTING FROM THE BENCH.

WHO THE FUCK WOULD LET THAT RETARD PLAY IN A REAL GAME.

AND HE'S THE ONLY ONE OF THE BASEBALL CLUB THAT STILL SMOKES...

THERE AIN'T ANYBODY IN THE WORLD LESS SUITED TO THE WORD 'EFFORT' THAN HIM

BASICALLY, HE'S ONLY PLAYIN' BASEBALL 'CAUSE HE AIN'T GOT NOTHIN' ELSE TO DO.

BULL-FUCK-ING-SHIT.

HEARD HE'S DOING A THOUSAND PRACTICE SWINGS A DAY, YO.

AS IF THAT RUNT WOULD DO THAT!

SOON ENOUGH HE HIMSELF'LL SEE THAT AIN'T NO BASEBALL CLUB THAT NEEDS THE LIKES OF HIM!

HAHA, HE'S JUST A PAIN IN THE ASS.

HAHAHAHA.

ANYWAY, IT'S PROBABLY ALREADY FINISHED, AIN'T IT?

NAH, IT'S FUCKING MILES AWAY, AND IT'S A PAIN IN THE ASS.

YA WANNA GO WATCH?

TN 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 R
SASAZAKI 2 0 0 2 0 4
FUTAGO-TAMAGAWA 0 1 2 0 0 5

HAH
HAH

笹崎

HAH
HAH

SHUT THE FUCK UP
STRAAA AIGHT!
NICE AND STRAIGHT, YO!

KEEP THROW-ING THOSE GOOD PITCHES, YO!
KEEP IT UP, ANIYA!!

.....
.....

ANIYA!

ANIYA!

ANI-
YA!!

DON'T FEEL ANY PITY FOR THESE LOSERS!!

1

SHIT...

OKAY! RIGHT FIELD!

EASY, EASY, NAKA-JIMA!!

SINCE SUDA HAS ALREADY HAD TWO HITS AGAINST HIM...

IS IT A SUB!? A SUBSTITUTION!? IS IT ME!?

BUT... IF WE CHANGE AKABOSHI-KUN, THEN WHO IS GOING TO PLAY CATCHER...

IS IT FINALLY MY TIME!?

.....
.....

HMMM... AFTER DRAGGING IT OUT THROUGH ALL THOSE FOULS, ANIYA IS STARTING TO THROW EASY PITCHES...

BEFORE HE GETS COMPLETELY EXHAUSTED WE NEED TO LET HIM REST.

OKAY ...

.....
.....

IT WOULD BE TOO MUCH OF A BURDEN TO ANYONE ELSE.

HMMM... WELL, BEING A CATCHER IS NOT A POSITION YOU CAN JUST SUDDENLY LEARN...

WHAT!? ARE YOU SERIOUS!?

WHAT THE HELL DID YOU JUST SAY!?

HEY GUYS, CAN YOU ALL COME BACK HERE A MINUTE?

ACH, THEY CAN'T HEAR US FROM HERE.

IT'S COOL, I'LL GO AND GET THEM.

2

WOAH! YOU SURPRISED ME THERE, DUDE!

I-I'LL GO!

.....!

PLEASE LET ME GO!!

WHY NOT!? EVEN I AM CAPABLE OF DOING THIS!

WH...

EH, SORRY HAMANAKA, BUT I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD.

12

EH?

Y-YES!

YEAH... OKAY... WELL, ANYWAY, DON'T WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING THAT HAPPENS, JUST GO AND RELAY THE MESSAGE.

UH... WELL...

HE'S ONLY CAPABLE OF DOING SOMETHING LIKE THIS, ANYWAY!

HAHA, WHY NOT? SHOULD BE OKAY.

BUT... UH...

....
....

EVEN I'M PART OF NIKO-GAKU!

EVEN I...

YES! FINALLY!

FINALLY, THE TIME HAS COME WHEN MY TEAM NEEDS ME!!

THE FUCK!!

CHATTER CHATTER

HAH? THAT NUMBER 12!

I-IT'S HIM!

I'LL FUCKING KILL YOU, FAGGOT!

GO HOME!!

WHAT THE FUCK DID YOU COME HERE FOR!? HUH?

!

DIE!!

GET OUTTA HERE!

WE DON'T NEED ASS-HOLES LIKE YOU ON OUR FIELD!!

.....

GO HOME!!

WHAT THE FUCK DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING ON THE FIELD!?

GET LOST, NUMBER 12!

GET OUTTA HERE, SCUM-BAG!

I THOUGHT IT MIGHT TURN OUT LIKE THIS...

.....

HUH?

A VILLAIN...
I-I'M...

WHA?
S-SERI-OUSLY!?

DIE, FAGGOT!
LOSER!
HURRY UP AND GET LOST!

CAN'T YOU HEAR!?
GET LOST!
GET OUTTA HEAR!
DISAP-PEAR!

A TRIAL COMES ONLY TO ONE WHO CAN OVERCOME IT.

!

GET OUTTA HERE!

GO AWAY!

HAMA-NAKA!

A NIKOGAKU PLAYER SHOULDN'T BE MAKING A FACE LIKE THAT,

DIE!

GET LOST!

GET OUTTA HERE!

10

....!

HEHEHE...

EHEHEH...

IT'S COOL, IT'S COOL, POSITIVE THINKING!

IT'S HIS FIRST TIME BEING CATCHER, RIGHT?

IT'LL BE FINE, HE CAN DO IT!

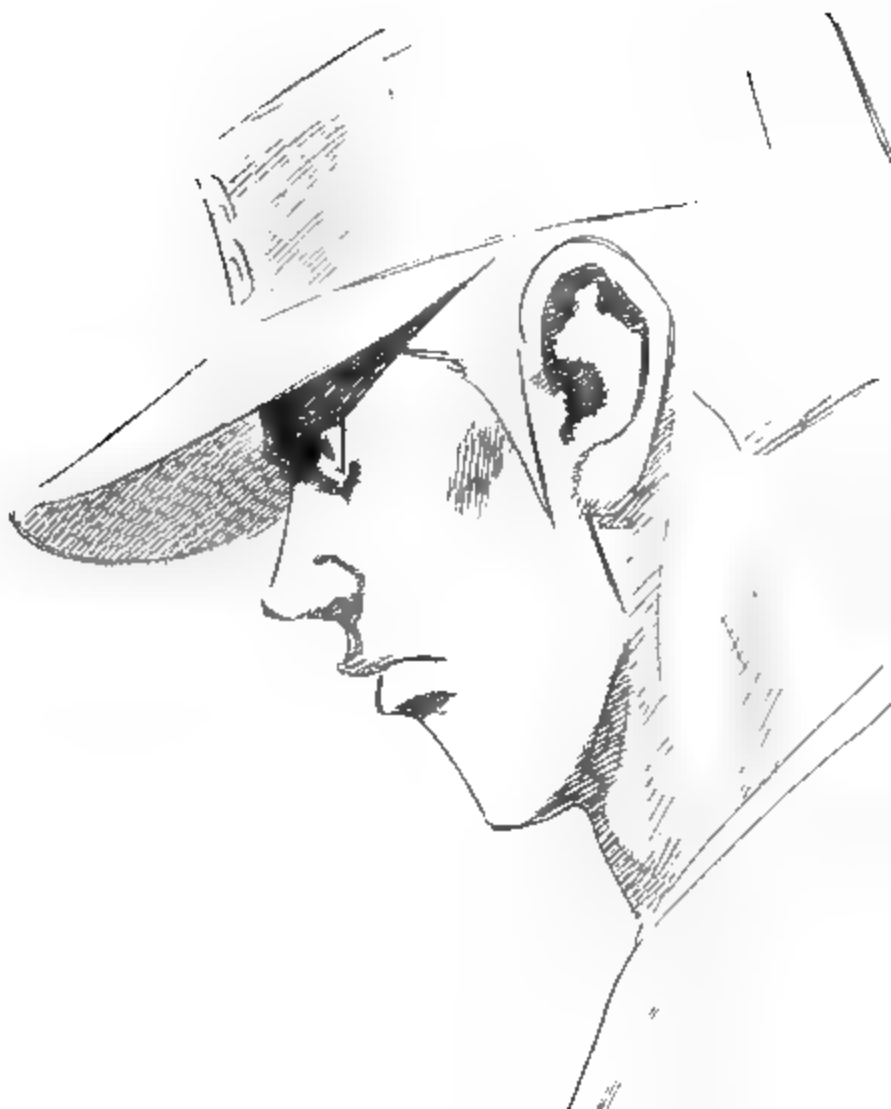
IS THIS FOR REAL?

カチャ

HEY! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU ARE DOING SMOKING!?

AH.../ UH...

NAH, I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT POSITIVE THINKING IS SUPPOSED TO MEAN...



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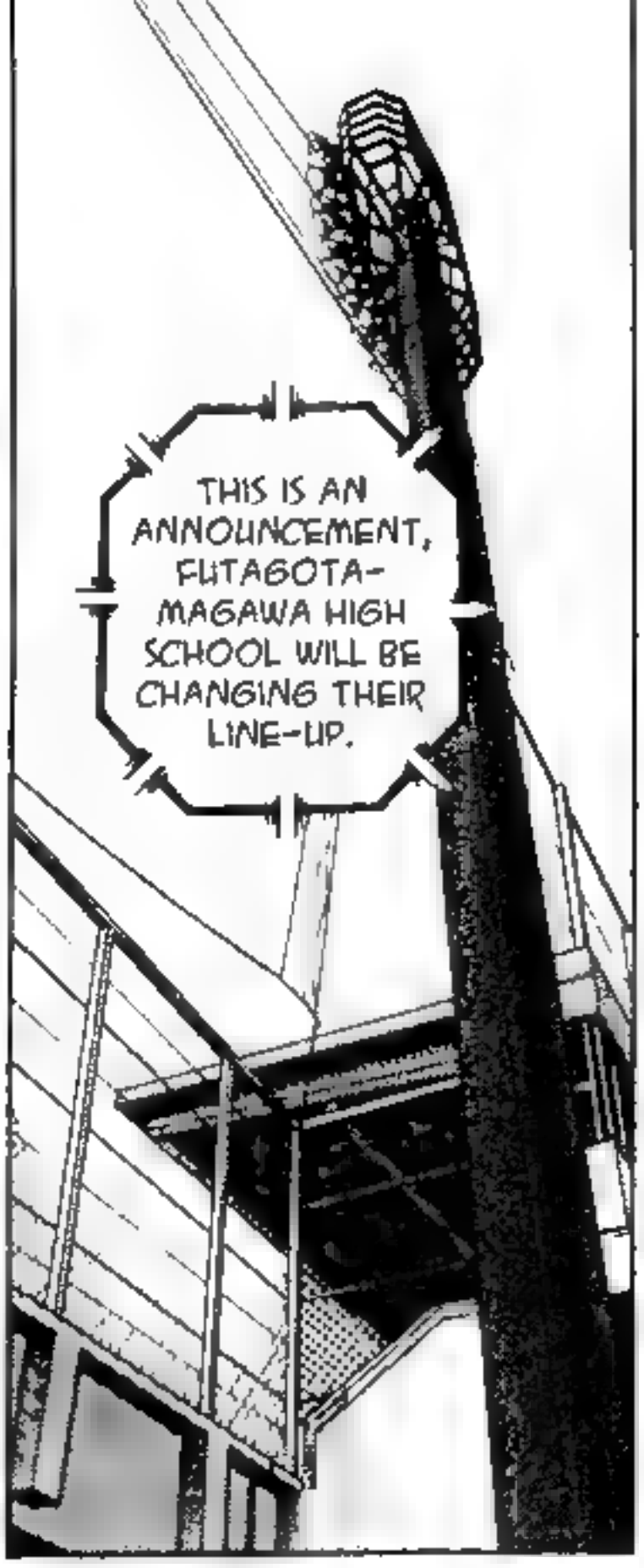


BATTING SECOND, CATCHER, MIKOSHIBA.

BATTING NINTH, SECOND BASE, IMAOKA.

BATTING THIRD, PITCHER, AKABOSHI.

BATTING FOURTH, LEFT FIELD, ANIYA.

THAT IS CURRENTLY ALL FOR THE CHANGES.

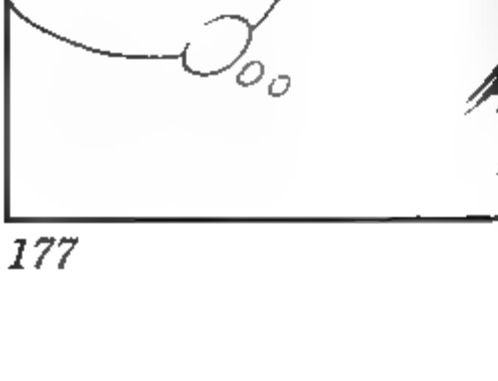
Vol.185
The Axle of the Champions

HEH, WHOEVER THEY BRING OUT TO PITCH WON'T MATTER ANYWAY.

CAN THAT GUY EVEN PLAY PITCHER!?

HA HAHA HAHA!

WELL, IF YOU'RE GONNA DO IT, THEN PLAY THAT NO. 12 AND MAKE US CRY!



BUT, HEY...

UH, WELL, YEAH, SHOULD BE OKAY...

AIN'T THESE LEG GUARDS WAY TOO BIG...

COUNTING ON YOU, AKABOSHI.

AND THEY'RE ONLY GONNA GET MORE AND MORE INTO THEIR FLOW.

CRITCH

BUT, YOU KNOW, NO MATTER HOW THEY STRUGGLE NOW, THE GAME'S FLOW IS IN SASAZAKI'S FAVOR.

OI OI, NIKOGAKU CHANGED A HELL OF A LOT THERE.

ACTUALLY, DIDN'T AKABOSHI ORIGINALLY START OUT AS A PITCHER?

UGH...

H''

...PROB-ABLY...

SINCE THEY AIN'T SEEN HIM PITCH, SASAZAKI WILL JUST LET THE FIRST BALL THROUGH.

GOO OO— AKA-BO-SHI—

C'MON, AKA-BOSHI!!

OHO, NOT TOO SHABBY THERE, AKABOSHI!!

WHOA! THAT WAS DEAD CENTRE!

WELL... PROBABLY...

BUT THIS IS SUDA, HE'D BE THE CLEANUP BATTER IF BESSHO WASN'T THERE... IF IT'S AN EASY PITCH, HE'LL DEFINITELY HIT BEFORE HE'S CORNERED...!

STRIKE!!

HIT IT!

HUUU!

SHORT-STOP!

UWA! IT'S A SLIDER!

SHIT, IT'S COMING!

IMA-OKA!!

OKAY, GOT IT!

OOOUT!

UGH!

WAH!

OOFT!

OOOUT!

HOLY SHIT, THEY AIN'T SO BAD AFTER ALL!

NICE PLAY, EVERY-ONE!

WE DID IT!

NICE PLAY!

OKAY, OKAY!!

YEEEE EAH!

HELL YEAH!

HO HO HO... ONLY GONNA GET BETTER, YOU SAY?
CRITCH
.....
.....

EH?
YOU GOT SOME NERVE, CLEARING OUT ALL THE RUNNERS IN FRONT OF ME.

BATTING FOURTH, THIRD BASE, BESSHO-KUN.
BESS-HO!!
5
GIVE US ANOTHER HOME-RUN!
WE WERE WAITING ON YA!!

WOAH, HE'S PRETTY INTENSE...
UH... HAHA.. YEAH...
THANKS.

DON'T WORRY, I GET IT.
HEY, HEY!

PLAY BALL!
AKABOSHI, YOU KNOW WHAT YOU GOTTA DO, RIGHT?

S

.....
.....

AH! HE STOOD UP!!

.....
.....

THEY'RE TRYIN' TO WALK HIM!

HEY, ASSHOLE! WHAT YOU SCARED OF!?

.....
.....

BALL!

PITCH PROP-ERLY!!

HMMM, WELL, IT'S OUR ONLY OPTION.

(4)

WELL, HE HAD A HIT IN HIS LAST AT BAT IN THE PREVIOUS TANISHIGE GAME, SO THIS WOULD MAKE IT FOUR CONSECUTIVE AT BATS.

LOOKS LIKE BESSHO'S 70TH CONSECUTIVE GAME WITH THREE HITS IN THREE CONSECUTIVE AT BATS IS ON HOLD.

FUCK IT, BESSHO! JUST TAKE A SWING!

YEAH, MAN! HIT IT!

BALL!

AND AGAIN...

AND AGAIN...

OI, WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE MAKING HIM WALK, DON'T YOU THINK YOU COULD THROW WITH A LITTLE MORE CONCENTRATION!?

YEAH, I GOT IT.

110

BALL!

WHOOA.

YO...

FOR FUCK'S SAKE, THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME.

WELL... WHATEVER, THEY GET FIRST BASE ANYWAY, SO THIS IS FUTILE...

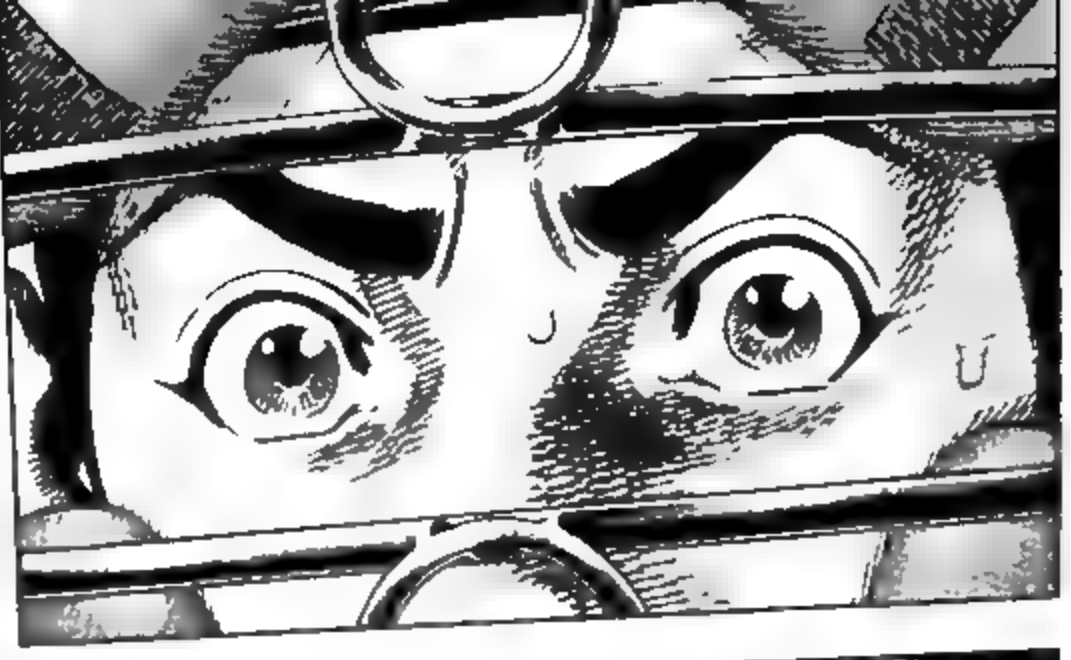
AND AGAIN...

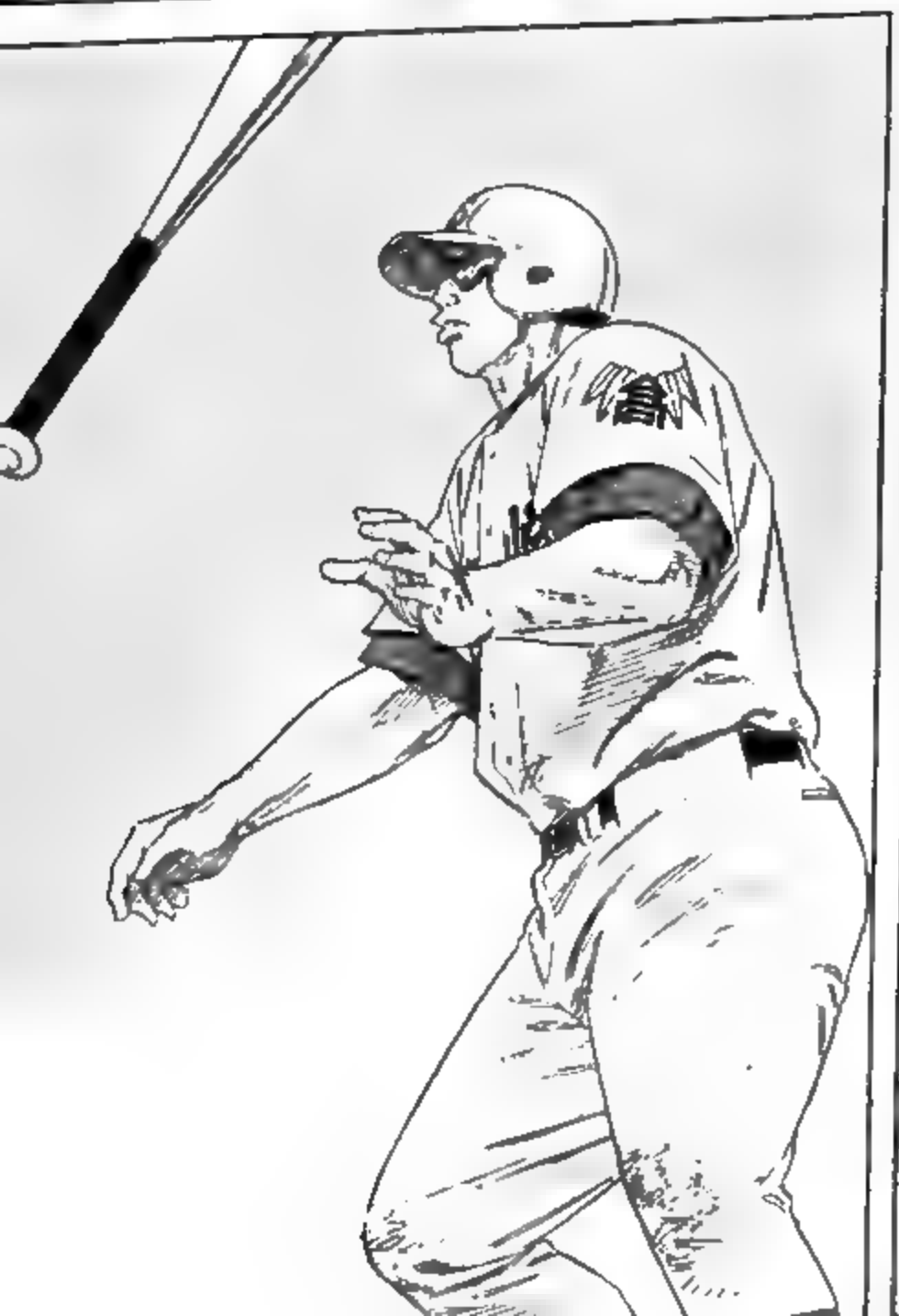
YO, AIN'T THAT TOO—

WHA?

5

H!!!





WHAT THE FUCK WAS THAT!!?

HE DID IT!!

WH...

NO... NO FUCK-ING WAY...

I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES!!!

OH MY GOD!!! HOW THE HELL!!

BESS-HO!!

YOU'RE THE BEST!!

HE DID IT AGAIN! NUMBER 70!!

....

NO FUCK-ING WAY!!

JUST WHAT IS THIS GUY!?

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

....

5

JUST...

WH-WHAT...

5

THANK GOD THAT ONE WENT IN~

OOOFT ...

.....
.....

HEY SAITOU, YOU FEEL A BIT BETTER NOW?

HAHA, WHAT A FUCKING GUY!

SASAZAKI 2 0 0 2 0 1 R 5
FUTAGO-YAMAGAWA 0 1 2 0 0 3

I DO...

C'MON, AKA-BOSHI!!

GET ON BASE NO MATTER WHAT!

NO DOUBT!

WELL, HE'LL COME OUT WITH A FORK FOR SURE!

STRRRR RIIIKE!

BATTER OUT!!

HERE IT IS!

.....
.....

....
....

CHI... AS LONG AS THOSE TWO ARE AROUND...

STARTING WITH YUFUNE STRIKING OUT IN THE FOURTH, THIS MAKES IT FIVE CONSECUTIVE STRIKEOUTS FOR KAWAKAMI...

OOOH, EVEN AKA-BOSHI...

IT'S ALL OVER NOW, THEY AIN'T GONNA TURN IT AROUND.

DOES THAT MEAN THAT DEFEATING SASAZAKI WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE!?

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19 Fool to cry (End)

■ジャンプ・コミックス

ROOKIES

19 Fool to cry

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